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MACLEAN'S



JUN.
19th
2006

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HOMEOWN TERROR

IT'S NOT OVER

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A MACLEAN'S INVESTIGATION P.18**

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**STEYN:
I TOLD YOU
SO... P.50**



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Canada's anti-terror arrests: Stay on top of the latest headlines as the story develops as it read on exclusive Maclean's.ca prior to Canada's sweeping anti-terror legislation. www.macleans.ca/terror

Question of the week: Do you feel secure about Canada's ability to prevent a terrorist attack? Vote in our online poll. www.macleans.ca/Bethune on Books: A review of a new book on the 200-year-old quest for the historical Jesus. www.macleans.ca/forbesbooks Join the conversation: Choose an on-line debate series discussion and debate in our lively talk forums. www.macleans.ca/forums

'Rona Ambrose tells the truth in Ottawa. That will doubtless lead to better air.'



ALLERGIC REACTIONS

I WANT TO THANK you for naming a story on allergies ("The allergic epidemic," Cover, June 5). The reality is that allergic diseases are now a manageable chronic medical condition. As someone who has had anaphylactic allergies to nuts and other foods all my life, I am sympathetic to the stress that little Riedler-Waddell's parents face today. However, it seems more challenging to those who when they have limited food choices, very few people in restaurants or schools who wear an allergy mask, and no way to use Epipen or Benign skin relief injection kits. Also, writer Danyelle Havelchuk says "little Riedler is severely allergic to eggs and many nuts, including peanuts, almonds and cashews." Please do not add to the confusion over the difference between tree nuts such as almonds, and peanuts. The peanut or groundnut is a species in the pea family.

Francis Nayles, Fergus, Ont.

THE ONE THING your article missed was the injection of hormones into the animals we eat and the pesticides and other chemicals also pumped into our food chain. These substances contribute more to our problems than anything else.

Joan Marney, Mississauga, Ont.

I WAS SURPRISED that your story didn't mention the likely link between food and vaccinations and allergies. Health magazines have been writing about it for years, but I'm sure that the mainstream medical profession doesn't want to consider it as a possibility.

Kathleen Saunders, Kamloops, B.C.

HOW IRONIC that a magazine with a cover story about allergen arrived with a perfume insert. There is no excuse for imposing scented products on anyone. Sure, I can see out the offending page, but the scent has permeated the whole magazine. The issue is not whether or not the scent is pleasant but even one that I like can cause discomfort.

Carly Dawson, Kootenai, Ont.

CLEARING THE AIR

EVERY MARCH Ottawa's Kyoto Protocol becomes "Canada's promise to do its 'air share'" implied a gas-washing over on jobs

and public spending ("Tinkering with the oil of Kyoto," Business, June 5). Reducing car emissions on fossil fuels will cause a loss of jobs in this industry, but it will create jobs in other industries. Currently, the government spends over \$1 billion per year on indirect subsidies to the oil and gas industry. These subsidies could be phased out and transferred to other areas that focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainability, in no other case is the taxpayer. What rule is it that we need to take action to reduce greenhouse gases. All of this then over the Kyoto Protocol versus the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development, and voluntary versus mandatory targets, is just a waste of time.

Joanette Derrick, Kingston, Ont.



THE ENVIRONMENT MINISTER has stated many times that it is impossible for us to meet our Kyoto commitments, but has offered no evidence to prove it. Similarly, the pro-Kyoto side has not explained how exactly we will achieve our target. We need a realistic plan designed with input from all levels of government, industry and individuals. This plan should then begin a binding referendum because this issue is too big and too important to be left to the politicians alone.

Shawn Harkin, Stittsville, Ont.

IT'S HIGH TIME that the Liberals and other head-on-the-side-and opponents end their hypocrisy over Kyoto. The Liberal

government (Jean Charest and Paul Martin) did practically nothing except to plan to buy credits from Russia and perhaps other countries. Meanwhile, the Canadian aviation industry steadily. Exactly how would Canadian achievement be enhanced, and global warming abated, if we would pay billions of dollars merely to raise our oil and gas acceptable emissions? Are these certain kind to reality? With the difficult truth acknowledged, we can now move ahead with realistic plans for some actual achievement. Canadians have had enough of the Kyoto myth in the reality worsened. At last Canada has an environment minister, Rona Ambrose, who tells the truth in Ottawa, at the UN, and elsewhere. That will doubtless lead to better air.

John R. Riedler-Waddell, Abbotsford, B.C.

BLAME FOR MENTAL ILLNESS

READING ABOUT Dr. Gordon Worme's out-dated ideas on mental illness has thrown me back to the era of the '60s when R. D. Ling was trying to convince everyone that mental illness was normally a brain disease or disorder but rather another way of experiencing the world ("Still 'crazy' after all these years," Science, June 5). That was accompanied by the belief that parents' attitudes and actions were responsible for their children's schizophrenia. There was also a tendency to see schizophrenia as an opportunity for creative thought as far with the use of hallucinogens. It is so difficult to escape the view that mental illness is not a personal fault or a personality trait acquired through bad parenting. I think that the idea that mental illness lies in the malfunctioning of the physical brain is both liberating and helpful, and we now have a large body of information indicating that the brains of schizophrenic patients are abnormal in their function and their anatomy.

Dr. Claude Menner, Assistant Director, School of Psychology, Behavioural Neuroscience Specialization, University of Ottawa

BEING ANDERSON COOPER

ANDERSON COOPER likes to make much of his concern for people in the Korean disaster, and Cooper and other celebrities use their status to ask the common we're all folk to contribute to relief efforts, but how much are they giving back to a country that made them rich ("Anderson Cooper feels your



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'Good news for Steyn. The Trudeau book is now available in English. He could even try, here's a thought, reading it.'



port," Macra, June 19. Also, Cooper may have borrowed a 26-6 camera in 1991 and flown to Thailand to document the struggles of Burmese refugees, but he had the means to do that. Some of us have actually struggled in various lives. We sacrificed to be educated. We forged careers without impressive familial assistance, and we strive to scrape out a living within the class structure Cooper embodies. Please spare us the well-made man stories of the arrogantly famous and wealthy.

Angela St. Michael, London, Ont.



'OUTRAGEOUSLY FAMOUS' and Rick Cooper

I WAS HAPPY to read Cooper's interpretation of Senator Mary Landrau during the aftermath of Katrina. I didn't feel his comments were directed solely at her, but rather at the larger inequity of politicians to deal with the situation. Amusement (or was it bewilderment?) mixed a peak, for me, when TV viewers were presented with footage of a girl sheeping along general driving traffic on a storm-cleared in New Orleans. I was feeling, exactly as Anderson put it, angered and frustrated at all the pats on the back that seemed to be the order of the day for politicians, all while we were witnessing the endless pictures of what was not happening to help people. Nadon to Cooper for telling it the way it was.

K. Donald Labadie, Massachusetts Plaza, N.Y.

READING AND REVIEWING

MAKE THYNN's book reviews are always an antidote, but his review of Young Trudeau

1919-1949 by Max and Monique Nicolson shares all of his proud personal records ("O come on all you Trudeau fanatics," Books, June 5). So close to the coast that Pierre Trudeau, and all of the people who have written kindly about him, that his "review" of the Nicolson book is about reading about the book rather than about buying it in the store. Good news, the book that he complains of finding on sale only in French—which does indeed read appalling events about the young Trudeau that will impress even the insensitive Mr. Steyn—is now available in English. He could even try—here's a thought—reading it and then reviewing it.

Douglas M. Gibson, Publisher, Douglas Gibson Books, McClelland & Stewart, Toronto

SMEAR TACTICS

WHAT PERPLEXES ME about politicians and their respective supporters is how they discuss dissent and disagreement as partisan ("The real Gwyn Morgan," From the Editors, May 26). I realize that such tactics are a subjective matter—purely it all depends on where you stand on the issues, as well as who the object of the discourse intends to happen to be. The thing that disturbed me about the Gwyn Morgan matter is that the person he was supposed to fill was in effect of the public appointment commission set up to set conditions for federal portages. But Morgan is a staunch Conservative and a long-time fundraiser. Just how objective would he have been at this job? I mean, who would have? You're his employer and honest, but that's your secretiveness, which, by the way, omitted any mention of his political loyalties and prior activities. Did you endorse him because you thought he would do a good job or because you happen to be his political stripes and thought promises?

Audrey J.S. Desrochers, Toronto

A MAN OF GREAT VISION who suffers from the malady of extreme honesty was going to chair a commission Canadians are in dire need of. And he was only going to charge \$1 a year. Seems many in Parliament are scared to have a man who might tell them how things ought to be done, a man who doesn't beat around the bush. A smart man. So these winged newspapers reacted him because they felt threatened. What a waste.

July Héro, Edmonton

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George W. Bush really likes same-sex marriage



Paul Wells has told his friend. Suddenly we're talking about gay marriage again. Perhaps I should define my terms. By "we," I don't actually mean "most Canadians." I mean "some people alienated with strategy and tactics in Ottawa." Most Canadians probably don't stop to second the motion, on any given day, that a few more of their gay and lesbian fellow citizens have decided to share the business of marriage today. Ever since gay marriage became law—first through an Ontario court decision in 2003 and then with Parliament's behind and built-in heterosexual endorsement in 2005—life has gone on pretty much the way it did before. This state of affairs naturally intrigues the Chalken Ladies who hold so much sway as an indication of world collapse if its joys were extended to gay and lesbians. Undoubtedly, that news has been slow to spread in some quarters. One group, the Defend Marriage Coalition, proclaims it is working "to restore marriage to its natural essence." Because? Men and women got married every day. Men and women are free, fertile. Men and women have had amazing babies even though the Defend Marriage Coalition wants to worry about.

And yet the prime minister's confirmation has potential to hold a free vote in Parliament on same-sex marriage in the autumn. "The vote will be in the fall," the Prime Minister said upon the bill's passage. "It will be a free vote. We committed to that in our platform."

And indeed it is. It is hard to get too upset at the Prime Minister, not only because he is fulfilling a campaign pledge, but because everything suggests he is doing what he can to put a loving case behind him. Actually, it'd be a lot harder at Harper's if I opposed same-sex marriage. He may actually be less difficult as an opponent of gay marriage than Paul Martin was as an advocate, which is saying something.

By holding a vote in the fall, Harper is short-changing gay marriage opponents who hope a delay will give them time to bully MPs by threatening to send away their constituents for re-election. And there's something even more significant: the vote will be whether MPs want the debate reopened, rather than on the substance of the question itself. But the odds are that the Conservative MPs will vote against the bill. The odds are that the Conservative MPs will vote against the bill. The odds are that the Conservative MPs will vote against the bill.



It's one of the few ways he can galvanize supporters. And that's bad news for Harper.

But Conservative opponents, for instance, would refuse to vote against gay marriage so much as how the question is phrased.

Household figures regarding the debate today would be approximated by 114 MPs, a loose majority in a 308-seat House, against 137 firm votes. And that's the end of that—or it would be if Harper weren't taking risk from a most unlikely source.

Down in Washington, George W. Bush is getting a bit desperate to avoid congressional elections for Republicans in mid-term congressional elections. Iraq is a mess. Iraq would be a bigger problem, and hurricane Katrina shattered Bush's reputation as a competent domestic manager. If Republicans say "no," the bill will move there later in time. What's left to

bring was the Republican base? The cynics and panic buttons. In earlier times, Bush's base would have disoriented an epidemic of flag-burning. This season, it's gay marriage. After paying the price no one wanted since the last election season, in 2004, Bush has decided once again it's time to amend the Constitution to make some sex marriage illegal.

It would be easy to see a little extra border control in the way Bush and Harper have prohibited this sleeping dog at its shelter at the same time. But it isn't so. Bush and Harper face different pressures and have different goals. The Canadian Prime Minister just wants this debate to go away. The U.S. President wants it back, in the hope that a few Republican voters will be so added by visions of some sex couples

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 - ☐ ☐ Do you get short of breath when doing a simple activity like climbing stairs?

If you answered Yes to being a smoker or ex-smoker AND one of any other questions, you may be at risk for COPD. Ask your doctor about a simple breathing test.

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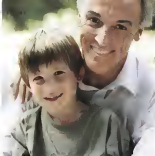
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What to keep in mind about relining:

- Part of the regular maintenance of your dentures is the occasional procedure of relining. A reline restores proper fit by filling in areas under the denture where supporting gums have receded.
- Relining is an economical way to maintain the proper function and fit of your denture and also extend the life of your denture.
- Relines are often done following the removal of natural teeth. Otherwise, the recommended minimum time to relin a denture is every three years.
- Some relines require lab procedures, while others may be completed right in the Denturist's chair.

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OPINION

Far better to be at the zoo than this circus



BARBARA AMIEL

Each day last weekend, I had to write about terrorism and then on Sunday afternoon I gave up and went to the Toronto Zoo. My choice was terrorism or zoo animals and between the two lots of animals, it's no contest. The hippopotamus, his bottom in some shallow muddy water and his top sticking in the sun, lay indifferent to the cameras of his young keeper who wanted him to get up for the visitors. Four African cheetahs sprawled motionless, dead to the Canadian camera, yob shouting at them with a gurgling "baah".

Yeah, I thought to myself. I know what's happening back in the world of animals, it's no contest. As they come to grips with that ill-fated summer plot. A lot of cheetahs, one half as efficient as digging up things as those Madagascan rats, will be snuffling around in front of TV cameras looking for "meat cues". At least one badly wounded lion was in a black coat, will be scolding Canadians for something or other.

A major police commissioner/politician will use an urgent call to a brokenline Canada, urging Canadians to beware of the backlisters they're absolutely no danger of expressing. The CBC will get Nature Channel to explain that the alleged terrorist plot in Toronto is our fault because we Canadians have become a biological of the American Afghanistan. Far better to be here, eating a McDonald's or a pizza than watching the Canadian leader do what it does best: submerge itself underwater, turning its clumsy beached self into a silent arctic of silvered beauty when it comes out and see how long it takes it actually happening on land.

I was wrong. The CBC got the anti-American British journalist Robert Fisk, instead of Noam Chomsky. Fisk explained that Canadians were in Afghanistan as a combat troops to fit America's bedding. My favorite

commenter, Nancy Wilson, did not know that she didn't seem to know that our troops are actually doing the bidding of the UN mandated, NATO-led, International Security Assistance Force.

The spotted hyenas stayed at the entrance to the cage far enough away to make an unsatisfactory appearance. In my mind, I hope jackals and hyenas, which are macaques. Hyenas are perennials, meant to be cannibals, hunt, stalk, and eat the droppings of other animals as well as their flesh and bones. If they are in human beings, they would work in a British cabinet. Jackals, parrots, and some silver, lions and some more. I suppose they would work at a hospital. The zoo hyenas, devoid of howling and the therefore any ability to do evil evil, seemed quite lost.

The Toronto Zoo is midway between zoo and wildlife park. There was a time in the zoo world when only the animal park was considered "modern". Everyone was very proud of all the land animals had then, but now zoo had a drawback: you couldn't see the animals—they were blacked out far off behind a fence—and a bird's-eye view is really for the birds. Still, watching the polar bear, you can't help feeling that big animals need more room.

The Toronto polar bear paced a dozen steps from one side of his recent enclosure to the other. He snuffed the air, half turned himself, snuffed and walked back to the water pool where he had a deep backwash, raised his front legs, turned left to pass the sleeping lady polar bear, and went forward to begin precisely the same act af

again, over and over and over again. Repetitive movements by polar bears are a given in the zoo world. Some studies say "enriched" enclosures help them. Some say it makes little difference. In captivity, they cling to their parents. When people make such repetitive stereotypical movements, they are usually diagnosed as suffering from a mental illness.

After the arrests, a lot of human beings made a lot of repetitive things. As usual, we were misled to believe that the security and safety of Canada is in a small in the way that of Canada. Muslims as in people. True enough, but a bird's-eye view. There



The polar bears kept repeating things. So did a lot of humans after the arrests.

security. Taken instead people got together and did each other. Whoever says outgo get to the pig and to dollars. In this case, all "spoke" are self-past.

I remain convinced of this. Perhaps it's useful thinking, but I believe Canadian Muslims would take to the streets—not in a march against Canadian nation—but solely and entirely to condemn and expunge. With hatred and violence from their mosques. Except none of the self-appointed Muslim leaders would ever consent to organize such a march. And none of our inspiring officials would ever consent that that is the problem, not a.



STORY OF THE WEEK—A BLOW AGAINST AL-QAEDA

U.S. forces in Iraq have suffered major blows to morale in recent months, led by the investigation into alleged atrocities by Marines at Haditha. Last week brought a much-needed victory: U.S. warplanes killed Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq. Tips from Iraqi and Jordanian led the U.S. to bomb a safe house north of Baghdad, killing al-Zarqawi, who was tied to at least 40 bombings, kidnappings and beheadings since 2003. Al Qaeda vowed to fight on.

Good news

Bigot mouth

Former native leader David Almond's concerns for promoting Israel were overturned last week by the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench, paving the way for a new trial. Almond's 2002 statements, in which he called Jews a "disease" and praised Hitler, were republishable. But there is an important difference between an inflammatory statement and an organized campaign to spread hatred. An offensive in his comments were, the court was right to recognize that distinction.

China blues

More unclear have joined the fight to topple China's Internet censorship regime. First, the National Union of Journalists, which represents 40,000 reporters, editors and producers in Britain and Ireland, called for boycott of Yahoo to protest its co-operation with Chinese authorities to identify dissidents online. Days later, Sergey Brin, co-founder of Google, announced the company's commitment to principles when it created a Chinese website of its site that blocked access to sites the government finds objectionable. He argued Google may pull the plug on the site, saying, "perhaps, now, the principled approach makes more sense." Thus from the guy whose corporate motto is don't be evil.

Eyes on the road

Montreal city council tabled a proposal to ban cellphone use while driving last week, and a few days after eight-year-old Rene Lapage-Bouchard was hit and killed by an SUV while riding his bike. Witnesses say the driver was speaking on a cellphone at the time of the accident. Almost all of us do it, and almost all of

Bad news

All those opposed?

The Liberal and NDP accidentally allowed the Conservative budget to pass through the House last week without a vote. They actually thought to stand in debate the bill. Then news broke of the anti-war unions in Toronto and opposition parties chose not to caucus the government on national security. They didn't want to appear to be "making political hay" out of a sensitive issue. Those of us who appreciate a properly functioning Parliament welcomed

night on ESPN, and 30 per cent fewer than watched the hockey finals two years ago on ESPN. Explains it an aging why I won't go as far as saying NHL games on the Ontario's Life Network? To make matters worse, the country that doesn't care seems poised to win the cup. The Canadian Hockey Union took control of the finals after the Edmonton Oilers lost their star goalie to Game 1.

Guilté guilt-ay

Degraded former bureaucrat Chuck Gault was found guilty on five counts of fraud related to the federal sponsorship scam last week. In all likelihood, he will now follow an enclosure and co-accused Jean Bédard to prison for at least two years. Given the evidence showing Gault's misuse of public money, prison is probably where he belongs. But one statement he made recently can't be denied: "The program was not in the political system and neither, Charles Gault." The bureaucrats and some of their co-conspirators in the sponsorship debacle are losing their freedom, all their political momentum lost was a decision.

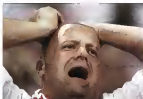
Still no HBO...

Madness gripping the nation to our south. Even of HBO's gritty western series *Deadwood*, arranged over the show's cancellation, have begun to organize "National Cancel HBO Day" in protest. Fortunately, cooler heads appear to be prevailing. A last-minute deal to make a pair of TV movies rather than a full fourth season will at least give fans an appropriate finale. But let us be the first to say, since HBO will be shut in Canada, if America is determined to cancel their subscription we'd be happy to take them.

Woe Stanley!

It appears America has completely lost interest in the game of hockey. Recent statistics indicate that only 611,000 U.S. households watched Game 1 of the Stanley Cup finals. That's less than watched a women's college softball game between Northwestern and Arizona on the same

FACE OF THE WEEK



AGONY As the World Cup got underway in Germany, Polish supporters watched their team lose its first match to Ecuador.

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A DENIM DISASTER, TONY'S TRIM, MEAN MACKAY. OTTAWA OUTTAKES BY MITCHEL RAPHAEL

OLIVIA CHOW: Alive and caroling

MP Marie Blais. Cyprien's place sister Renata Senechal (who was walking around with a red photo card he was autographing—I guess that's what happened when you don't get on the Whitehouse, same-party lives). My MP Helen Goss and Kathleen Jaffer. Liberty Island, the town's main body of water and island, including a Canadian dog (homage) and Toronto city councillor Kyle Rae. Turf, all the politicians had been sent for dinner in the back of Montreal table (IMO) in a little sponsor for the event). When Rae introduced his husband to Jaffer and Goss, saying, "We've been married for three years. I'd like to keep it that way." Jaffer told him he doubts the vote to recognize the debate on same-sex marriage will pass, but was sure on the ground he who got his man.

TONY'S WIFE FORCES CUTS
Tony's like to trim, but poor Tony Clement is currently in his busy schedule cut back. Some Conservatives wanted the busy bear (Clement won't name names), but, the health minister said, "Helen Goss and Ron Ambrose wanted to see him." Jaffer and Goss, who were married for years when they lived together with Pamela Anderson. It was the style of their years that got a place from their magazine's editor-in-chief. "His years should have been a darker drama with a cigarette cut. Skinny pants, not a boot cut. These years were possible two years ago. They are two years away from a week."

THEY'D LIKE TO STAY MARRIED
Seated front row center at Parliament were Theresa Liberal



POURING at the ambassador of Japan's residence

more hair" in the end. "The final battle was over by my wife, who said just once it down a list."

OTTAWA A ONE-FISH-STORE TOWN

The Ottawa Symphony Orchestra's dandy conductor David Currie studied in Japan during his formative years, so it was no surprise that this year's Ottawa 40th Flamingo garden



TONY CLEMENT: Before and after

party fundraiser was held at the residence of Japan's residence. Most showers and gifts were served and the Excellency's wife drew raffle orders from a table. As for the Japanese eat, busy are concerned, Ottawa's main store town and that store is Tokyo. Tokyo.

WHO VOTED HIM SEXIEST MP?

Last week on the Ottawa 40th, Richard Storch asked Foreign Affairs Minister Peter MacKay his first question on the Times and Power. Storch is leading support to Miss World Canada 2008, B.C. Trans Canada National Alliance



who is bringing attention to the plight of another woman. 15-year-old Naureen Mahabub Sheikh, who's survived to death in Iran for killing a man when he tried to rape her. "Would the minister confirm that he has received sentences from the Iranian embassy of a new trial?" asked Storch, who was chair of the Liberal women's caucus. MacKay seemed unsure when he noted Storch's "correct interest in the case." The minister's tone was not appreciated. Nor was his reference a few weeks ago when he told NDP MP Dawn Black (B.C.) to talk kindly and not, reaching the Liberal MP's sharp tone. And this is the guy who brought down the NDP by the 10th Year? The day could be longer, could it?

Mitchel Raphael can be contacted at mitchelraphael@torontojournal.net



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Seventeen arrests. A bomb plot thwarted. The authorities were vigilant, but it's also safe to say Canada got lucky. And we're still one of the 'weaker links.' BY MICHAEL FRISCOLANTI, JONATHAN GATEHOUSE AND CHARLIE GILLIS

HOMEGROWN TERROR

IT'S NOT OVER

For years, police and CBSI spies have kept a close eye on the Salafite Islamic Centre, a former warehouse in Montreal. From the corridors of their cars, anonymous agents watched Abouelhasan Khadr—Osama bin Laden's apparition in Canada—play and mingle and collect donations for the global jihad. They moni-

tored the movements of Mahamud Jaballah, the principal of the centre's elementary school, who was later jailed for his alleged role in terror. Mayyad Noroddin, Hidayatullah Hassan Farahji. All were, at one time or another, regulars at the Scarborough mosque—and the targets of Canadian intelligence officials. Spies are such a fixture around the low brick building that even happen often

join about bumping into them at the Tin Horseshoe down the street.

So Mahamud Robert Deth thought it was strange that his acquaintance, Fakhri Ahmad—one of the alleged leaders of a Toronto terror cell busted last week—chose the Salafite mosque, of all places, as hard into a DVD portraying the ghastly martyr of Chachaya, Afghanistan and Iraq. "That's one of the more warped mosques in Canada," says Deth, using the Arabic word that denotes a Muslim place of worship. "I thought he was pretty sure to be heading out. I'd like that publicly and thinking he wasn't going to be a suspect."

Deth, a 35-year-old Muslim convert who spoke to Maclean's by telephone from Mexico, knew Ahmad through Steven Chaud and Jibril Jamal, both recent converts as well, and two of the other men who allegedly plot and a terrorist attack in Canada and Deth, he says, had adopted them; unlike a Muslim, however, militant, aggressive. At one point, Deth says, James told him that Canadian authorities were watching him every move. "He said they followed him and he knew that they

were listening to all his phone conversations," he says. "The thing that bugs me most is that they know they were being watched."

It is a theme that runs through many accounts of the 12-man and five-women prosecution that has gripped the country. Last week's widely publicized arrests, followed by stunning allegations of bomb plots and planned beheadings, have been described as a wake-up call for security officials, a reminder of just how vulnerable we are to attack. But if the biggest anti-terror sweep in post-9/11 Canada came as a surprise to the general public, the investigation seems to have been an open secret to many in the Muslim community—including, it appears, the very targets of the probe. Early on, CBSI agents reportedly met with a number of the ringleaders and tried to scare them off. They also approached leading members of Toronto's Muslim community, showing pictures of the suspects and pleading for information. Ali Hinyi, Salahuddin's outspoken cousin—and close friend of the notorious Khadr family—and other leaders became so overwhelmed that a few months ago, he was told his son to stop hanging out with some of the people who are now behind bars. Not because he thought they were up to no good, but because nationalists approached him on helping them down. "When my son said he was going to play pool with those guys, I said, 'Don't go. Terrorism like this is not a good idea,'" says Hinyi.

It may be the conclusion of a secret



office of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, and an unnamed military member, the Crown says. The charges, which he couldn't care less whether they died or not, were filed in 1998.

industry stripes crossed roof. To assure, the poles were massive. But account knew the suspects, who were their transformation from to self-styled radicals, so leading to that moment.

Seyyed Ahmed Amrullah cracker at the Meadows

Up to the court-house stairs, trappings of the state, the crowd pressed first-hand in gentle, tortuous progress. The things were

entire last week, Canada's war-tornesse looked like a lot of a cheat. The federal government spent more than \$10 billion on security since 9/11, and while there have been no attacks on Canada, said, the country's best protection appeared to be our refusal to join the world. Why would a

2004, is accused of belonging to a terrorist group and has been linked to a fertilizer-bomb plot in London, England. And Canadian security officials have become more flexible in their failures than successes. There were the cases of three Canadians—Mihir Arav, Ahmad El Murr, and Abdulhik Almaliki—who ended up being incarcerated and tortured in Syrian prisons, under murky cir-

Understand the importance of

government reports, the RCMP "disrupted" as least a dozen "terrorist groups across the country has used little publicity over the cells were located, how they had, and what their interests are not available. And law enforcement continues to focus more and money on securing the border against foreign-based groups in Canadian soil."

circumstances and for highly questionable reasons in 2001's "Project Treason," RCMP and immigration authorities claimed they had broken up a major al-Qaeda cell, with plans to attack the Pickering nuclear plant, but were eventually forced to admit that the 19 Pakistanis suspected were guilty only of overstaying their visas. And of course, there's the country's long history of terror—the Khindis—who have never faced charges at home despite having lived with Osama bin Laden, Saif bin Laden, his wife, and allegedly supplied al-Qaeda with guns and money.



'IF THEY KNEW ABOUT

tegrate and quickly passing information on to other agencies both at home and abroad. "What is crucial paramount here is our ability to efficiently share intelligence and information in a timely fashion," says Ben Seave, a retired RCMP chief superintendent, and the former head of the anti-terror Integrated National Security Enforcement

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well, he was wounded. As an innocent man, he was brutally, positively abused by these allegations being made against him. These allegations are so ridiculous."

There will, but there is certainly no shortage of terror prosecutors that have crept in the past. Indian in Ontario was a case against a suspected al-Qaeda agent who allegedly wanted to poison the water supply of the U.S. Embassy in India, to send his own spirit back to his native land. But, this month, Smith's top court conviction is a landmark case, one that will be used to prosecute future terrorism cases in the Sept. 11 attacks.

But the biggest challenge will be the constantly evolving nature of the threat itself. The "improved" foreign-born Muslims, who are often trained in camps in Afghanistan or Pakistan, have already gone on to harder-to-detect "homegrown" plots, often second generation (immigrants), who receive their instructions via the Internet. And there is increasing evidence that terrorist organizations are now focusing on Muslim converts. One of the four London bombers, Jermaine Lindsay, was of Jamaican origin. Steven Chedoke, aka is Abdul Shakur, the Toronto suspect who allegedly wanted to bomb the Prime Minister, was raised as a Hindu. And one of the five young offenders facing charges are also reportedly converts. Last November, Marwan Barghout, a Catholic born Belgian citizen, blew himself up as an attack against a U.S. convoy north of Baghdad.

Two official British government reports into the London bombings, released earlier this spring, noted the difficulties now facing counter-terrorism agents. The number of "journeys" investigated targets and the U.K. grew from 150 around the time of 9/11 to almost 600 by the July 2005 attacks, but resources have not kept pace. Low promising suggestions—including two of the eventual tube strikers



THE NEED TO PROTECT POLICE

INFORMANTS, AND FOREIGN-OBTAINED INTELLIGENCE, COULD STAND

IN THE WAY OF CONVICTIONS

Sidique Khan

Should Toronto regularly roll off the radar. Many worrying for the House of Commons intelligence and security committee was how the July strikes "highlighted that there was no clear profile" of a homegrown militant. The four attackers had come from relatively comfortable homes, and there was little in their backgrounds that marked them as "particularly vulnerable to radicalization," noted the House Office report. Their bonds were constructed from readily available materials and required little expertise. The whole operation is estimated to have cost less than \$5,000, including tips by at least five of the members in Pakistan.

Moreover, there are signs that suspects are learning to stay invisible to police and intelligence agencies from their families as they step in. Knowing that investigations are keeping close to their own phone conversations, e-mails, websites and chat rooms, terrorist groups are increasingly working harder to cover their tracks of communication, the committee said. Such as satellite phones that are disguised after a single use. One of the men from Somalia on the Muslim jehads, Hassan al-Hakim, is alleged to have set up in Montreal and follow-up accounts as "dead drops." Investigators all looked on to the same record and avoided their

intimates and rules, sharing information without even fully knowing the true nature. Other groups reportedly disguise their coded communications in plain text. An FBI affidavit about the two-Georgia residents who allegedly travelled to Canada to meet with the Toronto plot in 2005, noted that federal agents found one CD-ROM hidden in the living of one of the men's wives. Technical experts are still laboring to decode the so-called encrypted files, but quickly determined that the other contained a booklet copy of a hard-core porno film. Apparently, the vast for the 72 targets that will reveal Islamic "anatomy" is not an easy one.

Even if police are ahead of the so-called jihad is a generation, there are nagging questions about the safety of major targets in Canada, an issue advisors have spent years trying to get on the public radar. The most vocal, Senator Colin Kenny, remains frustrated by the refusal of successive governments to "harden" key infrastructure: border bridges, airports, deep levels and power stations. "Of the designated ports in Canada, we've only got only 27. Most are assigned to national security," observes Kenny, a Liberal who, as chair of the standing Senate committee on national security and defence, has pushed a number of reports detailing security shortcomings across the country. Ten Canadian airports

show an "imminent risk"—i.e. the percentage of lives, property and health materials seized by security services—in the high-risk area. Kenny adds, "The worst one is the one in the U.S."

A VAPORIZED mosque (left), police chief Bill Blair (right)

show an "imminent risk"—i.e. the percentage of lives, property and health materials seized by security services—in the high-risk area. Kenny adds, "The worst one is the one in the U.S."

The House of Commons, one of the alleged targets, had been security under the rule of the recent attacks (though the public is still free to roam the lower and take tours). Another visible change has been the Rogers Centre—home of the Blue Jays—located along the same stretch of Toronto's Front Street in two other targets, CSB and the CBC. While entering the sub-station parking garage are now having their trucks searched. The heightened alarm has been Kenny. "Perhaps people won't wonder when we've been talking when we talk about these things."

But, he says, we still have a long way to go.

Reading for further attacks makes all the more sense in experts want to see how Canada's increasingly muscular foreign policy plays out in the global world. That group may have been planning to meet this summer. Hill no demand the withdrawal of Canadian troops from southern Afghanistan, but the reports' list of perceived Western imperatives against fellow Muslims in Iraq and included places like Iraq and the Palestinian territories, where Canada plays only a minor role. Martin Rodger, director of Carlson University's

centering of good and evil."

What does concern him is that Canada now finds itself doing the same uncomfortable duty about how to protect the threat from within that is now befuddling Europe. In the wake of the London strikes, the U.K. moved to tighten laws on speech, making it more to express anger for terrorism, and promised to do more to screen out radical voices. After the murder of Islamologist Tawfiq Dagh, the Netherlands has already tightened immigration laws, requiring newcomers to pass a language and culture test, and are now demanding that ethnic communities fully integrate into Dutch society. In Canada, a country that has come to see tolerance for other cultures as one of its defining national characteristics, ready for such a step out? "There is no question that radicalized voices are out there," says Dagh. "I think we're going to have to look at radical and extremist groups that have moved against our society and our democratic principles."

Even so, they don't. In the upper following the Toronto raid, it's been difficult at times to tell a radical from a radical, a jihadi from a homegrown challenged high-schooler. And on some level, authorities are already unbinding themselves from an organization with the rather ill-defined idea of a Canadian Agent.

It's hard to judge, which accused them of supporting the credit to provide the police against the U.S. in a suspect under the circumstances is smooth over the usual risk exposed by those highly public arrests—some of the domestic threat is well within the reach of our police and intelligence agencies. But at least Kenny put out after cataloging the many sold up in Canada's mission. "The terrorist only has to be lucky once. The cops have to be lucky every time." And answering the next battle can find a less obvious place in the business than the Salafite Islamists. Their radical means like a lot more.

With Nicholas Kilmer, Cole Campbell and Laura C. Savage

THE KIDS AREN'T ALRIGHT

The new worry for many Muslim parents: is my child fomenting jihad?



PARENTS' new top priority

BY MICHAEL KILMER: When they arrived to shoulder through the gauntlet of media outside a Brampton, Ont., courthouse last week, it was the women in their burkas who most attracted attention. Television news crews later dwelled on their drifting glances and low-browed, newspapers on their eyes. Less noticed were the young men—some wearing caps, with their bearded chins, clothed in black and white, clad in colorful shirts. Once inside, the new arrivals—Muslims and families of the 17 men arrested three days earlier—stood in a queue at the door to courtroom 103 alongside a throng of journalists, all awaiting their glimpse of the accused. The clumps of black-clad Muslims were unmovable but freely beyond the reach of reporters, who needed to keep their distance. For their part, the families maintained a posture of quiet. When a family member—normally one of the youngsters, either a brother, uncle, cousin or father—permitted himself a reply to a journalist's hard, wide-eyed look from an older brother, he would not speak a word. "There's a wrong within the Muslim community that if we speak so much or if we speak openly, we might be treated as betraying the community," says Fakhraa Hashim, director of the Mississauga Muslim Com-

TO SOME, the police-state trappings of the courthouse were excessive. More than 100 journalists swarmed inmates and relatives.



ON THE WEB: Stay on top of this story for the latest news and headlines, visit www.macleans.com/terrorism



THE RESOLUTION demanded a right of return and the end of the 'Apartheid Wall'.

LABOUR PAINS OVER ISRAEL

CUPE Ontario's call for a boycott sparks anger, but the boss won't bend

BY JAY TITTEL • While Operation Endgame commemorated the situation of the nation last week, a more folkloric controversy was being played out than rage festered mainly the kind of "wolfish bloodiness" terrorism experts have been decrying in the headlines.

The emergency session, at that most Conservative institution, a public employees union, on May 22 at its annual convention in Oranjestad, CLUPE Queens, the largest personnel union of the national CLUPE, representing nearly half of its 45,000 members, passed Resolution 54, calling for an economic boycott of Israel. The resolution condemned the "apartheid nature" of the Jewishness, acknowledged lobby against the "apartheid like practices of the Jewishness" and called for the dismantling of the "Apartheid Wall" and an immediate institution of the right of Palestinians to return to "their homes and properties" inside the current borders of Israel.

The resolution was remarkable in a number of ways. First, was its juxtaposition with the word "agathadid" (It appeared five times in the space of the resolution's 200 words). Second was the highly publicized claim that the vote, carried out by roughly 900 delegates, had been unanimous. Third was the rejection of the world tour for the union hall. It was immediate and tangible. Both the B'nai B'rith of Canada and the Canadian Jewish Congress perfectly weighed in on the sale of Israel, co-sponsoring columns reported in the *Globe* and *Mac* and the *Star*.

Globe, calling the resolution "a smear" and "a selective outrage," while in the *Toronto Star* Norman Sharansky characterized the boycott as "un-Canadian."

The reaction was enough to suggest that the most visible (and to some, rabble) champions of the resolution, Sen. Ryan, CLUPE Ontario's president, and a lightning rod for controversy, might consider withdrawing the proposed ban. But Ryan, who four years ago went through another anti-semitic witch hunt for naming "the Jewish lobby," when he had introduced a similarly provocative resolution about Israel at a national conference

THE SOLE 'JEWISH' LOCAL MISSED THE VOTE BECAUSE IT WAS WEDGED IN ON SATURDAY, THE SABBATH

of the Canadian Labour Congress (it was reluctantly agreed), was unopposed. And, apparently, targeted, and ill-fated, himself. "I don't believe how hypocritical these people [the UAW and the CJC] are, saying the union shouldn't be involved in international events," he told Haefliger. "Practically every union leader has been offered to go to Israel, to meet with people, a whole idea which is basically propaganda for themselves. We have every right to state ours." Ryan also pointed to recent president for CUPW's refusal (one that internationally was equally controversial) — the decision by Britain's National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education to support an Israeli boycott as well.

But possibly the most remarkable thing about the resolution was its existence in the

first place. Far from being a mainstream jag, gonist of policy, it turns out to be the product of a loose-knit, somewhat risky-discovery process, part accident, part oversight, part expedience. It was conceived in every sense of the word, obscurely, scarcely debated, and wedged in with a raft of other "less important" items on the conversion's agenda. Not only is it not a unanimous reflection of the arc nebula's consensus, there's nothing how much

However, although the CAFFCOTs are not an advisory committee, which is considered an "unilateral move," taken place every May. In February, a call goes out to the various African localities for resolutions they want to put forward for voting at the convention. These resolutions are then considered by a "resolutions committee," made up of eight to 10 delegates who volunteer for the position and whose selection is determined by adherence to the union's equality-policy—quality of grade, region and viable minority (but not religious, the union being "no racial"). Because there is no time to bring on all the resolutions at the convention, the committee decides which resolutions are "current" and which are "non-current." The resolutions are then scheduled to be voted on at the convention, in order of priority (the international political resolutions are only a small fraction of the total). Sunday morning is reserved for, mainly by, the "non-current" resolutions, which are then voted on during the week following the convention. The resolutions are then taken place (as it was this time, when 580 delegates, among others, were welcomed. Many are taken with a show of hands. Absentees are counted by roll call, but not named.

**MISSED
WEDGED
MATH**

Resolution 50, which opened with a fence, was a prime demonstration of three CUPE leaders presenting the same message in different ways: as Q&A, Callaghan and York. No non-academicists were involved. The latest resolution took place on Sunday morning, wedged in with the other "unimportant" issues. From the reports of people in attendance, debate followed some perfunctory and involved no single position against the motion, voting in itself. And claims of unanimity took time to be highly suspect. Because all claims weren't accurate, a handful of people could have been sitting on the fence, and that's where they were. I have not decided "yet" whether or not for the present of the past voting method wouldn't have been acknowledged. Some arguments that this is untenable will be honored.

To cloud matters even more, none of the delegates from the four local representative Jewish public service institutions was present. The reasons were instructive: most of the

locally, in ordering a 2009 resolution on the charge, local and previously disqualified trustees from CUPE Ontario (located members of CUPE is mandatory, but in the region discuss voluntary, and the members of the "Jewish" local still in CUPE Ontario, Local 265, representing the Jewish Family and Child Services, couldn't attend due to work because it was held on a Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath. The overnight was and publicly was not as it was that it asked the Union: the vote was an absolutely unanimous because certain members were unaccountable silence.

They didn't say *ident* long. On June 1, the four abhorrents said a letter to CUPE's national president, Paul Morse, asking the national leader to help to intervene and dissuade Resolution 90 "Mr. Ryan is not behaving as a brother," they wrote, "but rather, as an immigrant, self-serving rube, out of place. His behavior has become an embarrassment to the dignity, equality, respect and goodwill associated with the CUPE name." They also demanded an apology. Lil Nobel, president of CUPE Local 2661, put it even more succinctly: "We are ashamed to be members of this

'I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW HYPOCRITICAL THESE PEOPLE ARE,' SAYS RYAN, OF THE 'JEWISH LOBBY'

users." Members of other local not associated with Jewish organizations revealed some of the funniest moments of all: "I've been a CLUE member for 22 years," said Mimi Shanon "and today, as a Jewish person, I really do feel being discriminated against by my own union. It's painful. They say they represent the members, but it's the delegates [going to the convention], not the members. Holding Israel to a different standard than the rest of the world is the modern version of anti-Semitism."

Some bigger hitters in the labour universe were feeding squawks as well. Russ Hargrove, president of the Canadian Auto Workers, argued that the labour movement should call for dialogue and exchange, not finger-pointing and blame. He noted that there

and Ishai and Alben both are "Jewish leaders." And a few days later, CLEJ's national newspaper with an endorsement on the website. While declining to reveal the identities of the source, they noted that they "do not [sic] have doubt that they really do so conscientiously," they reported their 2002 resolution on the Middle East crisis, which call for Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories, but makes no mention of sanctions or a Palestinian right of return. They went on to add that "we will not be making a call to Israeli settlers against Canada to boycott Israel."

At the core of the Israeli settler stood Shimon Peres (speaking with Maslow) during this controversy, he had been an affable and charming Israeli leader. He was a peace-loving man who had been a close friend of the author. He was a man who had been a close friend of the author. He was a man who had been a close friend of the author.



But at the same time he seemed to have an organic ability to see how certain words like "apartheid" or "emotional triggers," how these name people might use them not as code names but as personal vicariousness the face of a hostile world, only a step away from a freedom of speech, from a freedom of thought like the anti-apartheid struggle of the 1950s. "I didn't coin the phrase 'apartheid' in relation to Israel," he explained. "People like Michèle Mouton have used it in talks about Israel. Desmond Tutu has used it, when I was in the confirmation of those people. Do you want a labour union leader in Ontario to say, the wrath of the world comes down on him. 'No, no,' he said at one point, 'I've been called an anti-Semite in many years, but I would find almost being meaningless.'"

To his friends, possibly, Not clearly, everyone in

Clear-cut from caucus

The Liberals turf a lumberjack senator who's under investigation

BY NICHOLAS KÖHLER • Last Thursday, the very day he was suspended from the Liberal party caucus for allegedly using public funds, a neighbour saw Senator Raymond Lavigne roaring his tires. His own laws. Himself. Which, for Carol Paulinew—the neighbour in question—must have come as some thing of a surprise.

You see, Lueghe, a one-time Liberal MP for Minnesota's highly Veridical 11th House district who was appointed to the Senate by Jack Chambers, has in the past relied on underlings to perform such honey-do chores—there's Carol Paulsen and her husband. Lueghe knows too well: even he's limited to Lueghe's own property, located just outside Ontario near "Blackbird," Col. Lueghe is said to have said. "I don't want to be a public officer. I don't want my salary made paid out of public coffers, so I can't do as many as 175—there's both old pro bonos and little uplings—on the Paulsens' property next to his. The Paulsens, who were appalled, confronted Carol, thrusting money to call police then the contractor. Carol later had words with Lueghe's wife, Carmen. Robb said, "She said she didn't know why we were so mean to her," recalls Carol, who said Robb said back a remark the now says she'd rather not say in print. Police have razed up at the Paulsens' home, warning them to keep away from the scene and to leave the property. "I don't want to be a public officer," she said. "I don't want my salary made paid out of public coffers," says Carol. "And here now he's back in court."

In a letter last week, a Senate subcommittee asked last year after the Faulkner filed a complaint, said it has "serious concerns" about Langford's use of Senate resources, and revealed that he would return almost \$14,000 to the Senate without prejudice. The public version of the subcommittee's confidential report also refers the matter to the "proper authorities"—meaning, Sen. Daniel Hoyer told Macdonald last week, the BCPD. Within hours of the Senate newsletters, Bill Graham, the senior Liberal leader, tarred Langford from the party—as clear for the time being. "It is inappropriate," said Graham, "for Senator Langford to sit with the Liberal caucus until any investigations have been completed."

Lavigne, for his part, didn't return calls last week. Perhaps he was too busy snowing his lawn. **Hiroshi M**



WE'LL MISS YOU—REALLY WE WE.

"I hate to say this, Peter, but if there was a flash and a bang right now and Charlie [Hibbert] and I were talking to two blank screens, it wouldn't be the end of the world in the rest of Canada. It would be unfortunate and we would be very worried, but there is the simple fact this is a big and diverse country." —CBC political scientist and CBC panelist Michael Byers to Peter Mansbridge, on what would happen if a terrorist bomb went off at the CBC building



SHE'S THE MOST POPULAR GERMAN LEADER SINCE...

East meets West in Chancellor Angela Merkel, flying high with 80 per cent approval ratings
BY MICHAEL PETROU

Earlier this spring, Britain's best-selling daily newspaper, the Sun, introduced its readers to Germany's new Chancellor Angela Merkel with a large photograph of her asked to wear red, taken by paparazzi when Merkel was vacationing in Italy. "Tinted in the Rindensch," the caption read, a pun on the name for the German house of pashaness.

The Germans are used to taking abuse from the British tabloid press, whose school-boyish journalism seems to be laid out in a 1940s-era way. Germans are routinely described in "Krauts" and "Franks" and the newspaper's photo spread of supposedly the ugliest girls in Germany featured women

with black Hitler moustaches airbrushed on their faces. But in making fun of Merkel, it appears that the Sun finally crossed a line and teased the Germans to righteous anger. "Bitch impersonator chancellor," the Bild newspaper flamed in a headline, and asked, "Where does the hatched come from?"

A better question to ask would be, where did this over-the-top support among Germans for Angela Merkel come from?

Merkel, chairwoman of the conservative Christian Democratic Union, became chancellor last November amid mass ambivalence and low expectations. She almost lost the election against incumbent as Gerhard Schröder and his Social Democratic Party,

and the leads Germany today in the best of an unlikely coalition with her party's archrivals, the SPD. But six months after the election, Merkel, 51, who was rated in East Germany, has seen her approval ratings to her popularity top 80 per cent. It is a stunning turnaround, and with western Europe's other traditional powerhouse, France, Italy and Britain, either incapacitated or—in the case of Britain—led by a prime minister riding out his final days in office, Merkel stands as arguably the most powerful leader in Europe.

Much of her popularity can be explained by the simple fact that she is not Schröder. Chancellor from 1998 to 2005, he is a vain and bloated man who enjoyed anti-American grandstanding, and he is a close friend of Russian President Vladimir Putin. As then-foreign minister, he signed a multi-billion dollar gas pipeline deal with Russia, and under scrutiny of leaving office accepted the job of chair-

man of the pipeline company itself. Germans snubbed a lot. "I can't think of anyone who's fallen from favour so quickly upon leaving office," says Wilfried Pöhlmann, a professor at the University of Birmingham's Institute for German Studies. "It's fallen off a cliff."

Merkel has a different style. She obviously seems to develop and become, but Germans more prefer to describe her as measured and pragmatic. "We needed a new in politics," says Clemens Wiegels, editorial writer at Der Tagesspiegel, a Berlin daily. "Many Germans had the feeling that they needed someone with a more hands-on approach, with more calm and less emotional media politics."

The chancellor's style has so far distanced voters from the fact that, domestically, she only been in office much. Merkel had campaigned on a platform of five major reforms designed to liberalize Germany's heavily regulated society. But now that she heads a coalition of left and right, none of these have been involved or rolled down.

Ironically, this has allowed Merkel to broaden her support to include many on the left who once would have recoiled at backing a conservative. Take the case of Jutta Tietze, a 50-year-old woman with slightly bobbed hair, long black hair and deeply tanned skin. Tietze, 61, is a self-described "1968er"—one of the young people who spent the 1960s protesting against the social hierarchy, and who have had no more contact with German media and politics ever since. Tietze voted for Schröder's SPD, and says she has always been against Merkel. "But I must admit that I've surprised in a positive way. I must admit if someone is doing a good job." Tietze says she might even support Merkel's originally planned economic reforms. "It's a miracle," she says.

"But we have such social security net here. It's almost too much. People always find it so to get more money from the state." Germans crave harmony and compromise, says Josef Joffe, publisher and editor at Die Zeit, an influential German weekly. Merkel's endorsement of this has given her substantial lead. The nature of the coalition she leads has also reinforced her ability to deliver serious results at home, has already Merkel has made it clear she intends to transform Germany's position in the world and shake up alliances that have gone sour. European affairs since Sept. 11, Germany's foreign policy has been a mess. Schröder's foreign policy has been a mess. Schröder's foreign policy has been a mess.

During the 2002 election campaign, Schröder declared he would not "click my heels" and Bill Clinton's 35th birthday. Schröder's foreign policy has been a mess. Schröder's foreign policy has been a mess. Schröder's foreign policy has been a mess.

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and relations between the United States and Germany turned on its head. Most Germans despise the U.S. President. But while anti-Americanism is widespread, it is not as prevalent as it is in France. "We should never forget what the U.S. did for Germany after the Second World War," says Michael Busch, a consultant at a management government. Many Germans, in fact, worried about whether their country would lose their traditional ally.

Merkel moved immediately to repair this damage. She has visited Washington twice, and has an excellent rapport with Bush. Angela Merkel is somebody who is a joy to deal with," Bush said in an interview with ABC, a German television network. He also told reporters, "She's got a lot of spirit and she's got a lot of spirit."

Much more important than establishing a personal friendship, Merkel is aligning German foreign policy closer to that of the U.S. and further from the stance of democracy in Russia, she has harsh words for Putin, and she is more critical of the Putin

'MERKEL HAS THE BIGGEST BALLS IN EUROPE'



research director at the German Council on Foreign Relations. Officials in the Bush administration are predictably thrilled. Wiegels says that a senior U.S. diplomat told him, "Merkel has the biggest balls in Europe." Wiegels agrees—he says Merkel is the bravest and most powerful leader on the continent. But it is not clear if she is willing to assume a leadership role in Europe, where there is a marked power vacuum.

"There's an old tradition of German foreign policy after the Second World War—that we don't think of ourselves as taking the lead," Wiegels says. Merkel's speech, however, may be shaped more by the experience of growing up in Communist East Germany than it is by the collective sense of guilt and passivity many Germans carry over as a result of their country's Nazi past. Bush and she and Merkel spent a lot of time at the White House discussing her childhood. "There's something really refreshing to work with someone who understands East-West what it means to be free,"

754 is something of a lone duck. Bush doesn't see it as a win-lose.

According to Wiegels, Merkel's foreign policy is motivated by her own ideals as much as by incorporating an opportunity for Germany. "Her thinking is rooted on a term like 'freedom,' which won't be the one with Schröder," he says. "In foreign policy, freedom never played a role. It was always stability, stability, stability—freedom and democracy came somewhere on the back seat. With Merkel, freedom is the centerpiece of her thinking." Freedom is also a central message for Bush. "So they understand each other," says Michael Busch.



'MERKEL HAS THE BIGGEST BALLS IN EUROPE'

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'THE ELECTION DIDN'T GIVE HER A MANDATE FOR BRUISING REFORMS'

he in it (ARD). "Cervicely Angela Merkel has gone from a nobody which was impressive to a society with its open and free."

If the key to understanding Merkel's foreign policy ambitions lie in her childhood past, some answers might be found in Templin, a small town remembered by friends and lakes, 75 km north of Berlin. Angela Merkel's family moved here from Helmstedt, West Germany, when she was a toddler. Her father was a Lutheran pastor, and the family suffered some discrimination in their faith. Merkel did not join the Communist Young Pioneers, as did most East German youth. Also like hundreds of thousands of other East Germans, she was approached by the East secret police and asked to spy on her peers. Merkel refused. According to some reports, she claimed she was an "unreliable informant" because she wouldn't betray secrets. But rejecting the Stasi demanded courage, regardless of the cost. She in turn was seen as a maverick and was ignored by her supposed friends.

It turns out the Stasi were correct in its question: Merkel is committed to Communism. Although the intensity tapered, Merkel joined the Democratic Awakening movement when the Communist regime was on the verge of collapse. She later joined the CDU and became a protégé of chancellor Helmut Kohl, who brought her into his cabinet and then helped launch her political career.

Today, Templin is a popular destination for weekly Berliners looking to escape the city and enjoy outdoor activities. But the economy is depressed, and locals suffer high levels of unemployment. When Merkel's advent, the town was adorned with posters advertising an upcoming concert by Klaus M., "Prisoning the original lead singer." Other posters protested an Osage, or "East party," a nostalgic celebration of Ger-

man East Germany.

"I went to school with her," says Gerd Müller. "She was a nice little girl, as nice as the rest of us. We played and studied together." Another classmate, who asked not to be named, says that life felt like they actually had another chance to answer questions in the classroom. "We had a lot of problems with her in class. She always knew better than the rest of us," he says.

During Wernar's childhood in Templin, she tended to see things on Angela Merkel's. Like Merkel, Wernar's family was religious. Both girls were confirmed in their church,

a church. How can we survive? Kessler says she will never vote for Merkel again. She says she was happier living in Communist East Germany. "There was more help from the state."

For all of Angela Merkel's good ideas about Europe, global and global issues, it is the German economy and domestic reforms that most affect people like Kessler, and it is on these issues that her chancellorship will succeed or fail. The economy has enjoyed a modest recovery of late, although it is debatable how much the weak reforms that Merkel has introduced are responsible. Consumer confidence has improved, and the unemployment rate has dropped, but it still remains at 10 per cent.

Instead of taking part in jobs training, another coming-of-age ceremony common in East Germany. "Whenever you were against the government, chances are you were Christian, because you needed something else to believe in," she says.

But the oppression Wernar's family suffered at the hands of Communist authorities in East Germany was much more severe. Her parents were jailed and their property seized. They migrated to the West in 1967. Wernar now lives in Berlin, but the events back frequently. In fact, on this day she is taking legal possession of her family's property that was appropriated by the Communist state during the 1950s. (As life did not end when she ended her party but she still has a house as property, which she will be allowed to keep.) Wernar believes that growing up in Templin shaped Merkel's politics. "She had to live with repression. I think that had a lot to do with it, her upbringing here. She moved between two worlds. This gave her the ability to move between East and West."

Wernar says she is now very proud of Merkel—because she is a woman, and because she comes from the former East Germany. Significantly, however, Wernar left East Germany, and lived mostly in the West as a nurse. Those who remained in Templin don't feel nearly as much affection for their chancellor. "We don't think she's one of us," says Hans-Ulrich Frey, who runs a diner. "You can tell by the outcome of the election here. The CDU didn't do well."

Kessler says she supported Merkel in the last election because she thought Merkel understood what living in the East was like. "But since she has become chancellor, she doesn't stand up for us." Now Kessler feels the economic reforms that Merkel is bringing in. "I quit 150 euros a month. My husband is on a pension. He gets 600 euros



GERMANY'S powerful women (top left) remain an obstacle to change. Angela Merkel with former chancellor Helmut Kohl, and with French President Jacques Chirac.

each higher than in France. "A slight economic recovery is of course welcome," Wernar says. "But it is not what we need to make politics move. It actually comes as the reality of the economy, because it gives us the feeling that maybe things will turn out well without us moving too much." Weighing that raised free market reforms are necessary, but not five Germans are willing to go through with them. "I don't have free-market convictions playing an important role as we push for success or failure," he says. "There is a strong mood that we should be done with our problem, but if you come down to it, people don't want the problem solving to hurt them. They want to have their cake and eat it. And this is not

Continued on page 33



UNDERSTANDING THE NEW MEXICO - THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY

MEXICO, it can be said, has gone through dramatic changes in the last 25 years. With a fledgling democracy and a GDP that recently entered the trillion-dollar club, the country is now known for the more than the sum of its stereotypes of sun, beaches, and nice living. While tourism remains a staple of the country's economy, it is other sectors—including mining, manufacturing and shipping—that present the best business opportunities for the world at large in general, and Canada in particular.

There is a certain affinity for Canada in this part of the world. Not only do we live close

There is a certain affinity for Canucks in this part of the world.

to each other, but also we speak the same language. Canada's economic relationship with Mexico is a close one. In fact, Canada is one of the top 10 countries in the world in terms of trade with Mexico. Canada's exports to Mexico are valued at over \$100 billion (US) – which is up from \$80 billion in 1990. Canada's exports to Mexico are valued at over \$100 billion (US) – which is up from \$80 billion in 1990. Canada's exports to Mexico are valued at over \$100 billion (US) – which is up from \$80 billion in 1990.

In 1990, it became legal for Mexican persons or companies to own a share, even if that company is 100 per cent Canadian-owned. Mr. Friedman said, noting that price has helped stabilize foreign ownership in a more

stable market. When the price of oil was going up, the price of another natural resource, for example, might be on its way down. However, the current economic boom in Mexico and China, as well as generally robust economies around the world, have meant that just about every mineral – including Mexican staples like gold, silver, iron, copper and zinc – are at high values. It makes for an interesting investment situation, particularly since both metals and minerals are essential for capital.

As in any other country, however, mining remains a risky endeavor that takes a special breed of investor. "Canada has the most interesting mining culture in the world," said Mexican Canadian a partner in Soda Lupa, an international business and investment consulting firm. "Canada has a tendency to take risks, to put money on plate to finance risky projects earlier in the exploration stage."

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"The number one market for risk in the world for Mexican mining operations is the Toronto Stock Exchange."

Lozano Diaz, lawyer and mining specialist

"This remains one market for risk in the world for Mexican mining operations is the Toronto Stock Exchange," advised Lozano Diaz, a lawyer and mining specialist with Mexico City-based Diaz Naves y Asociados SC.

The Guatemala mining disaster in February showed that the dangers and pitfalls associated with the industry are ever-present, but Mexican mining officials stress that isolated accidents cannot detract from a very important source of Mexican jobs. There are over 270,000 registered miners in the country – and probably the same



number who are unemployed. "We have to keep mining," said Enrique Cornejo de la Rosa, of the Mining, Metallurgy and Engineering Society of Mexico. "We must take the best measures to ensure a disaster doesn't happen again, but this is certain: we have to keep mining."

Indeed, the Mexican government still recognized the importance of its mining sector some 15 years ago, and put into place some of the most draconian and far-reaching mining laws in North America, which balance the need for environmental safeguards with the impor-

ance of foreign investment and employment. With the foreign ownership law in 1992 and the amended NAFTA five years later, Mexico's mining philosophy changed completely from the way it had been for decades.

"Since the '80s, people realized that it was bad for business to have a nationalistic skill about the mining sector," said Federico Kase, a mining consultant and adviser to Mexican mining giant Peñoles. "It cannot be isolated from economic life here, especially the Mexican situation, realize that we are in a global econ-

omy and it's not possible to be a business outside this concept."

Mexico law is structured for this reality. The government has complete mineral rights from the exploration licenses and mineral ownership rights on research, protection and control of the country's mineral resources. Along with the Liberal Foreign Investment rules, the Geological Survey of Mexico has effectively streamlined the mining concession process, putting most of their geological surveys and concessions into online, as well as providing a variety of services – including surveying, chemical analysis and atomic absorption testing – to mining companies and potential investors. (MI is ISO 9001:2000 approved.)



Pedro Martinez, a mining engineer and advisor to Mexican mining giant Peñoles

The agency can also provide geologic, geochemical and geomagnetic maps, utilities mapping services and environmental impact reports.

About 70 percent of the work has been shipped out in detail, and further detailed mapping is a priority for the Geological Survey of Mexico. All the maps are available at the agency's website (www.geologia.gob.mx), as are those conversations available for holding in addition about 14,000 mineral reports are subject. "The first steps are as now as one is going to run companies," Mr. Escobedo said.

ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE



Jose Martinez and Paul Martinez, Salsol's owners

AGORA PAUL MARTINEZ'S SALSOL is the first model building machine his father bought in 1970. The second machine formed both the press and the press mold for Cross Line, Mexico's largest manufacturer of aluminum floorplates and plywood and cabinets up to the level being very busy two office worldwide.

The company's products are ubiquitous – they've built these things for everyone from Minidale to Bombardier in Mexico's oil giant Pemex – and are made from scratch in the Mexico City plant. But it is its approach that sets them apart.

Cross Line, which is approved by Underwriters Laboratories, will do just about anything for their clients. This includes even opening a new dedicated plant, if need be, so they did when they were the bid to provide trays in Mexico City's water system. In 2004, Cross Line built 100 kilometers of aluminum trays. The company's department shows, Cross Line recently began manufacturing aluminum for American-based Ditz, the largest aluminum company in the world.

Both Paul and his brother Jose Martinez, who is the company's director general, are unapologetic in what they want a direct link with Canadian aluminum, steel, PVC piping and floor glass products, so that they can cut out what

amounts to a very large and expensive middle man: The United States.

Cross Line currently uses 100 tons of aluminum and 60 tons of steel per month production. Mexico's largest American distributor. This makes its materials considerably more expensive. Though its products cost 30 percent less than those of American companies, the businessmen to be even more competitive. "We buy it straight from Canada, if the price is right," Paul Martinez says.

As well, the company would like to sell directly to Canada, to make its products cheaper to Canadians. The business also want to expand into Mexico's burgeoning mining sector, dominated by Canadian companies and have this to say: "If you need work done on site, we will put everything on a truck and do the bending, stamping and shaping wherever you need it," said Paul Martinez, adding that the company also manufactures metal stamping and bending tools.

Along with its main plant in Mexico City, Cross Line has two offices scattered around Mexico and Guatemala. "They're in the places and we'll build it," said Jose Martinez, chuckling. "We Mexicans are generous. It's our nature to share things out, and Cross Line is always looking for richer in which to specialize."

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Mexico's concession law is designed to encourage companies to explore and mine, which means more employment for Mexican miners, engineers, office staff and the like.

In 2003, Mexico further streamlined the patent system. Previously, companies needed both an exploration and an exploitation patent, but now need only one. "It makes it easier and cheaper for both sides to explore and exploit," said Mr. Clandinin. Concessions are typically 90 years, with the option to renew at the end.

What's more, there are no royalty taxes on minerals in Mexico, unlike several other Latin American countries in the south. It means mining companies pay only a flat rate tax on their concessions. "I always say that if you could put three laws on one table, it'd be mining," laughs Mr. Konec.

While finding concessions through a number of winning a public auction and signing some papers—a fairly easy process, according to Mr. Konec—the law still is designed to discourage speculation by mining companies. Anyone acquiring a concession must realize that the fees are staggered by year. At first, fees are relatively cheap, but go up steeply every year that the land isn't explored.

ENGINEER LIVES IT. PUZZO WANTS Canada to know that he wants to go back.

As the director of Metal Vert, the fledgling metal recycling division of Mexican soldering manufacturers Omega Solder, Puzzo has dedicated most of his working hours to finding reliable sources of industrial scrap, iron turnings, electrical wiring, copper wire, brass ingots and components - all harvested for the valuable metals. Puzzo doesn't call it garbage; he perfects "unwashed loops", but Metal Vert's operations in San Luis Potosi prove that one company's junk is another's lifeblood.

Metal Vert recovers mainly copper, tin, lead, zinc, antimony and precious metals for their clients. The year-old company has become profitable in the last six months, largely because of the volume of the materials cost there, and because Puzzo and his sons have kept production costs down by manufacturing most of the needed machinery in-house. But they're growing, and they want more. "We're a second line we can produce 100 tons of copper and 500 of tin and lead antimony per month," Puzzo says. "We can be an economical alternative to China. Even if it is hazardous material, the customer has no liability."

The plant, which is currently in the process of adding 350-10000 is designed by his larger sibling factories - first with used engine oil and pure oxygen, casting fuel costs by 40 percent. The material is blasted, separated and sold on the open market. A set of filters scrubs the resulting exhaust of its tin and lead oxides, which are then recycled. "We use a simple formula: the value of metals minus the cost of treatment. If the first is bigger than the second, the company will be paid."

The company, Puzzo notes, is right in the center of Mexico: just two main ports and within 500 kilometers of the bulk of the Mexican economy. "I'm interested in making contact with anyone who has a lot of something that they don't know what to do with."

Registered miners are unionized, though the country does not have a history of work stoppages.

The, according to Mr. Escandon, helps promote "concession mining" - and encourage companies to efficiently explore and mine, which means more employment for Mexican miners, engineers, office staff and the like. (Legislators have also looked up the rules regarding the non-payment of fees, making it easier for the government to reopen old mining concessions.)

Now are there any penalties for getting out of a particular concession or mining operation as

there are a small ally Latin American countries. Then, after getting out of an investment concession, they can't return according to Mr. Clandinin. "There are no legal constraints from doing so, and no unstable royalties to be paid," he said.

The increase in mining activity in Mexico has sparked a renewed environmental movement, which most mining analysts see as a mixed blessing. As it stands, Mexico's mining laws are as stringent as those in the U.S. and Canada, according to Mr. De La Rosa. The last five years or so have seen an increase in the enforcement of existing environmental laws, but have also meant, on occasion, the interference of local governments in creating mining projects - even though this has been fully licensed by the federal government.

Mineral Concessions in Mexico



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BEACHES AND BUSINESS. Sun-and-entertainment shops. Palm trees and post activity. There is a definite year-and-year upsurge in the City of Manzanillo, a feeling that people here like to work as much as they like to play. Thanks to its geography, which nearly divides its fantastic beaches from the bustling port, the two worlds of Manzanillo are at once close together and far apart.

Manzanillo's 437-hectare design-water port is Mexico's busiest, moving nearly 475,000 containers last year, for a total of 11-million tons of goods, including oil. It is the third most important port in the world.

Port officials are enthusiastic about Manzanillo's future prospects, particularly when one considers that the distance from Manzanillo to New York City, for example, is shorter than to the Long Beach port in California. "The other amazing thing about Manzanillo is that ships get a docking station right away," said Captain Hector Mora Gómez, Port of Manzanillo CEO. "Unlike in Long Beach, you don't have to wait around for three or four days."

The port is also open to foreign investment—which, according to Mexican law, can be as high as 100 percent. Vetting the port, one gets the feeling of huge sustained change. The port is currently adding a berth docking position deepening the channel depth, adding a



Capitan Hector Mora Gomez, CEO of the Port of Manzanillo

60-hectare trailer regulating center and increasing the size of customs inspection areas—which already boast genuine ship inspection stations for faster processing.

The biggest project to come is the Upported Natural Gas (UNG) project, which will pump gas 300 kilometers to Mexico City. The ability to export large volumes of UNG at a time will save Mexican industry millions of dollars—savings that will make doing business in Mexico all the more attractive, says José Ignacio Penabaz Sánchez, Colima's Industry Minister.

Captain Mora is frank about his desire for Canadian investment. "When Mexicans want Canadian products they go through the U.S., and when Canadians want Mexican products, they go through the U.S.," he says. "The end result is that it's more expensive. We want to develop strategic alliances with Canada, especially the port of Veracruz, to basically cut out the middle-man."

emphatic with most of the things ecological groups wanted."

Registered voters are rewarded, though the courts don't have a history of such steps (after the recent strike at the Cirque Mexicano arena in the first such step), says a spokesman, according to Mr. De La Rosa. Mexico doesn't allow for mixing in the nucleus of designated ecological zones, but will allow it with certain restrictions within the surrounding so-called "buffer zone."



A view from the interior.

In Mexico we have labour both with workers and engineers. In Canada you have natural resources and physical capital.

A rough education of the local paper says: "The best example of a man-made project in San Luis Potosí," he says. "It was an effort to improve the quality of life for the workers and the community, and it



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SILVER IN MEXICO



"It's as easy as the middle," Mr. Canadian says of his country's environmental laws. "We are not as strict as some people could like, but we are not a country where you can't do anything."

The possibility of a left-wing government in the coming job elections have some worrying that Mexico's mining laws will regress to state ownership as has happened under socialist Bolivian and Venezuelan governments. Not to worry, private ownership is a right on the constitution and changing it would require a two-thirds vote in the congress and state—which is highly unlikely. "Besides, there hasn't been a big move about private companies in the mining industry," Mr. Canadian said.



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VOITING THE FLOOR OF THE MANUFACTURING, one can get the answer to an obscure but intriguing question: What do about 400,000 employees look like?

The San Luis Potosí-based company, which sits squarely on the major north-south route known as the "Santa Fe highway," has manufactured washers, as well as safety goggles, since 1965 for an American-based safety equipment company. Between 10 and 12 million goggles move across TIR's floor every month.

Though the process is repetitive — the plant's 400 floor employees work in modular stations, or soundbys/hundreds of thousands of pairs of washers and goggles in varying areas of assembly — TIR has expanded into a different land far more complex: not only the manufacture of aircraft parts.

Last year, company founder and president Enrique Javier Rodriguez devoted a third of his 2,000-square-meter plant to the production of nose and temperature buffer parts for commercial jet businesses. The parts, made of fiberglass and five-strand fiber, are deceptively simple to look at. In fact, each must meet existing aircraft standards. "There was a perception that TIR could do only simple things like put together washers," said the 41-year-old Rodriguez. "They thought more complex things were beyond our reach. They thought we could do only washers."

By giving customers such as American-based Southwest and Freddie Mac all beneath freeness in the last year, the company has already proven itself. The jobs began as orders of fiberglass washers and then evolved into orders of temperature buffer parts. In the dedicated, unobstructed area, workers cut the fiberglass and fiber by hand according to dozens of different

design specifications. [The firm itself is also located within the vibrant company logo.]

The fiberglass "pillar" is heated between two blowers, after which workers use a wet-and-dry-blend welder. The final product is cool to the touch and cold temperatures from the inside of an aircraft. The forging operation has 100,000 in revenues already and TIR hopes to have more contacts from Canadian-based aircraft companies. "Production costs are half of what they are in the U.S. and Canada," Mr. Ramirez points out. "This fiberglass is not easy to deal with. It's sticky and melting, and not every company wants to deal with it."

The company, which is unincorporated, has never had a work stoppage or any other major interruption. "We have good relations with the union," says project manager Roberto Ramirez. TIR is 60 miles and 100 kilometers (300 miles) from Rodriguez's hometown. The company is a small, family-owned business. The parts made of fiberglass and five-strand fiber are deceptively simple to look at. In fact, each must meet existing aircraft standards. "There was a perception that TIR could do only simple things like put together washers," said the 41-year-old Rodriguez. "They thought more complex things were beyond our reach. They thought we could do only washers."

The forging business is TIR's most and most profitable, producing the bulk of the company's 10 million in revenues last year alone. The product needs the raw materials, and it is up to TIR's staff to put everything together — gluing, attaching, packaging and packing boxes.

Though the market is dominated by the straight-forward design, forging available at the company, TIR also does under batch jobs for specialty products. The final product is made by workers to test (welding capability, and will manufacture to complete specific design. Customers wanted their washers to match the color of the fiber.

In the past, TIR has also done assembly work for car parts company AC Delco, which has several plants in San Luis Potosí. And, as a show of TIR's for reaching ability, the company recently began a chocolate manufacturing wing, and has a contract to install a kitchen in the center of Rodriguez's Rodriguez, which himself used to work for AC Delco. Rodriguez says his company was born out of his goal to target and make in any market.

Rodriguez's unapologetic in what he wants. More Canadian clients, "What a great company. We can manufacture anything you want, no matter how simple or complex. We do car engines, and we are looking to get into the business of manufacturing safety harnesses and gear which are involved in process. We can do, no matter if it's washers, or airplane parts for fighters."

The workforce is entirely diverse. There are over 400 car plants already located in San Luis Potosí, as well as five universities and two technical colleges — from which TIR has drawn for its facility. Rodriguez didn't hire his company here only because it's his home town. San Luis Potosí is a straight drive north to the U.S. border and Rodriguez says made can get to Indiana in three days, and to Canada in under four.

Project manager Ramirez says TIR offers an adaptive, company structure and a dynamic labor force which allow the company to take on and build tools faster and more cheaply than their competitors in the U.S. and Canada, and it is a three-day drive from the biggest concentration of the American and Canadian market — just west of Chicago. "We wanted four people to replace to chocolate, so there's 11 much we work," Mr. Ramirez said.



Enrique Javier Rodriguez, owner of Fundiciones Internacionales y Asociados de México, points to one of his manufacturing plants.

"YOU CAN LIVE IN MEXICO two ways," says engineer Francisco Tarraga Riles. "You can work and make money or you can fall in love and lose your shirt."

It is unclear what decision Mr. Tarraga chose. Not only is he fully clothed, he is also president of a mid-sized industrial engineering plant in Santa Isabel Micozotlán, roughly 200 kilometers south of Mexico City. A Spanish by birth, he moved to Mexico in 1983 and opened his plant, Semeritros, in Mexico City. Acabados de México, which has become what amounts to a one-stop shop for industrial machinery, in the heart of Mexico City. The plant is a three-story building with 2,000 square meters of machinery that can be seen from Mr. Tarraga's office window. On this day, the plant is empty, with workers and clanging noise, as workers finish up an order for railway car doors. Railway car doors? "Yeah, I can make them," Mr. Tarraga says confidently.

Semeritros' competitive edge lies in the kind of day-to-day business plan — as well as Mexico's very competitive labor cost, which is a fraction of what it is elsewhere in North America. The company's 125 permanent employees fluctuate to upwards of 500 when there is a plant expansion job to be done. "I do it because I like big jobs, and I want to move to do," Mr. Tarraga says.

In the past few years, Semeritros has built paper recycling and reparation tanks for Procter & Gamble pulp and paper operation in Apasco, Jalisco. Mr. Tarraga's company constructed an industrial warehouse in San Miguel de Allende for Volvo, the country's

telecommunications concern. He's built conveyor belts and material transporter systems, and has disassembled and moved an entire silver mining operation from the north of Chihuahua to Vera Cruz, a distance of roughly 4,000 kilometers, assembling and refurbishing it thereafter.

Just about every line and services production facility in Santa Isabel Micozotlán — including Procter & Gamble, the area's largest — bears Semeritros' mark, right down to the assembly of the required high pressure machinery.

The work is done either on-site or, in the case of machinery manufacturing, in Semeritros' 2,000 square meter warehouse that can be seen from Mr. Tarraga's office window. On this day, the plant is empty, with workers and clanging noise, as workers finish up an order for railway car doors. Railway car doors? "Yeah, I can make them," Mr. Tarraga says confidently.

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EXCELLEN RESOURCES INC. (TSX:EXR) is test-mining and developing high-grade silver-lead-zinc mineralization on its 14,800-hectare (36,800-acre) Pánuco/Saltinas Properties, which resemble several world-class carbonate replacement deposits, in Mexico's northeastern Durango State. Mining operations commenced in September 2004. Excellen continues to expand to increase mineralization through aggressive underground and surface drilling. With four rigs on site (three on surface and one underground), the Company is developing its underground and largest reserves to date, the Guadalupe and Guadalupe South Mines, and plans to update its mineral resource estimate by the end of June.

Excellen has become Mexico's lowest high-grade silver producer through exploitation of very high-grade massive sulfidate orebodies in its Pánuco Mine in northeastern Durango State, Mexico. An aggressive U.S. \$3-million on-site and drill-to-sale exploration program has been launched, expected to be completed over the next nine months. A 4,000-meter surface-based diamond-drilling program has begun, directed at

geological, geochemical and geophysical targets interpreted as reflecting large-scale mineralization throughout the balance of Excellen's 14,800-hectare (36,800-acre) Pánuco/Saltinas Properties in the district. A parallel program including 3,000-meters of surface drilling, 7,500-meters of underground drilling and 300 meters of direct heading will be executed to expand the resources in and around the existing mine.

The company now ships between five and six thousand tonnes of ore monthly, based on an NI 43-101 compliant mineral resource estimate prepared in September 2003 by Roscoe Pottle Associates Inc., independent geological and mining consultants. The average grade of the mineral resource is 75 ounces/tonne of silver, 19% lead, and 12% zinc.

Although Excellen sees the profitability of larger development, in the future the revenue generated from ore shipments and funds to be provided by exercisable warrants provides the company with a positive cash flow, and thus there is no need for immediate additional financing.

The United States, Canada and Mexico cannot look at one another as just another market anymore

Mr. Escobedo, who has spent his life studying what Mexico can remove from its own soil and where, is confident that the environmental, economic and business case overall, if only because it is in the interests of both that Mexico protect and account from its resources.

Viewing Mr. Escobedo's view, is in Mexico's blood – despite what might happen in government or in the environmental movement. As an example, he points to the fleet in his office in Pánuco, about 200 kilometers northeast of Mexico City. "This building, this town is built on silver findings," he said laughing. "Two percent of the world's copper is mined in Mexico, and the materials contained in Mexico's soil have an intrinsic value of 100 billion dollars. We mined 25 tons of gold last year, which is the 19th highest in the world."

If he sounds somewhat frustrated, it's only because Mr. Escobedo believes that the Mexican mining industry is understated in the world, and he appreciates what Canada has already learned that Mexico has a flowing, vibrant and stable mining industry.

In Mexico is in Canada, NAFTA has provided both significant opportunities and challenges for the mining industry and beyond. A recent report by the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy said neither country has fully benefited from the elimination of customs duties with the United States.

"We need to increase our competitiveness" and Dr. René Villalón, president of the Center for Intellectual Capital and Competitiveness, Villalón singled out the North American auto industry as an example, but his advice applies to all sectors of the economy. "We are not taking full advantage of our

integration. In Mexico, we have labor, both with workers and engineers. You have natural resources and you have physical capital. The U.S., Canada and Mexico cannot look at one another as just another market anymore."

INDUSTRY

Colima is the third smallest of Mexico's 31 states, but in many ways it proves itself above its weight. The Port of Manzanillo, situated on the west coast of Mexico, ships 70 percent of the country's exports, and is actually closer to inland America than the historic St. Louis and only closer to the U.S. port in Long Beach, California. "The state has 40 percent of Mexico's iron ore within its borders, and it is home to some of the most magnificent (and understated) tourist destinations in the country."

Perhaps the best news for Canadians, however, is Colima's Department of Economic Development's wish to do business directly with the Great White North. Jose

GREAT PANTHER RESOURCES LIMITED has combined highly experienced international management and ready access to capital, with high-quality silver & gold projects and established local professional staff in Mexico. With its 100% acquisition of both the high-grade Topica Silver Mine in Durango State and the Santa Fe Silver-Gold Mines in Guanajuato, Great Panther has recently become a silver producer, listed on Tier 1 of the TSX Venture Exchange and is well positioned to become one of the world's largest primary silver producers.

The Topica Mining District is one of the oldest in Mexico, with the discovery of silver dating back to 1535. The Topica Silver Mine was opened in 1952 by Minera Mexicana Pánuco, now Mexico's largest silver producer.

The Guanajuato Mining District is one of the most prolific and best known silver districts

in the world, with silver having been discovered in 1547 and estimates of historic production ranging from 300 million to 1.5 billion ounces of silver and 4 to 7 million ounces of gold. During the 18th century, the district was reportedly "producing one-third of the world's silver."

The three principal mines in Great Panther's proposed acquisition, the Valenciana, Cata and Reyes, are situated on the main Veta Madre (Mother Lode) structure that trends north-south-east through the district for at least 21 kilometers. The Valenciana Mine was once said to be

"the richest silver mine in the world." Bohemian-style mine operation in the Veta Madre structure at the historic mine is still being expanded and is often considered as "direct shipping ore" (so the material as the grades exceed those of the concentrates produced, train average ore in the flotation plant).

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SANDY BEACHES. Warm, wet, hot, easy living. Topical. Mexico's very name conjures up all of these images, and more. Yet they are usually associated with places like Cancun and Acapulco which are billed as ready-made tourist havens for anyone with a hankering for sun and a week off.

It makes for a tough sell for the rest of the country—including the state of Colima, a tiny, wedge-shaped province in southwestern Mexico. Indeed, it is best known, not for its beaches (but for the Port of Manzanillo, the most important in the country [see related article]).

Important as it is, the port even shadows what is a vibrant and important tourist sector that has had enormous success in drawing Canadian tourists. And it has done so in large part by billing itself as the "Sun Cancer."

You won't find the acres of sprawling hotel Negritos or the typically busy (chalet-style) associated with them, anywhere on the state's 150 kilometers of beaches. They are rarely crowded, or noisy. The city of Colima, which is about an

hour from the coast, manages to be at once both bustling and serene—Cancun without the hustle. Most of Manzanillo's beaches are happily out of sight from the bustling port, where some 70 cruise ships landed last year.

The state has five golf courses, including the flagship, the *Nevada*, designed by Robert von Hagge. It is renowned for its deep-sea fishing, and holds the international sail-fishing tournament every year. There are turtle and crocodile reserves, La Fundidora National Park, as well as the active volcano, Volcán de Huixtla, which pulls out majestic clouds of smoke over the city of Colima (not to worry, though: It won't erupt into the city itself). There are five different climates. All of this, and more, is a within an hour's drive in any direction.

"There's a saying in Colima: If you drive two feet you'll probably miss it," said Sergio Marcelino Bravo Sandoval, Colima's Minister of Tourism. "Within one hour, we have beaches, volcanoes, amazing food, national-diver city, ecotourism and nature goodness."

It is also easier: a recent government survey said it was the safest city in the country. Mr. Bravo says the stability and lack of corruption, as well as the important shipping trade, have made the state a haven for "business tourism", a place where business people can mix business with pleasure for the whole family.

What's more, roughly 75 percent of the one million visiting tourists are Canadian, and there are regular direct charter flights from Vancouver, Montreal, Toronto and Calgary.



The Port of Manzanillo, situated on the west coast of Mexico, ships 70 percent of the country's exports, and is actually closer to inland American cities like Houston, St. Louis and others than the U.S. port in Long Beach, California.

Ignacio Perilla Sánchez, the minister in charge of all things industrial in the state, is bullish on trade between the two countries at NAFTA's centennial.

Though he stresses the importance of renewed economic cooperation between all three NAFTA countries—“We have to face China and India so lets forget about fighting amongst ourselves, integrate and face the rest of the world,” he says—Mr. Perilla stresses the common interests between Mexico and Canada.

Shipping goods through the United States adds another layer of bureaucracy and national hassles which cost time and money. It's a route—especially considering the direct link between Colima and Vancouver. Mr. Perilla has met with Canadian trade officials to discuss a treaty agreement between Manzanillo and the Port of Vancouver. “We have to develop the link between the two countries without going through the United States. You only have to deal with Mexican and Canadian customs, so you can forget about the United States.”

Colima's commitment is rich ground for potential investors. Transparency International recently rated Colima as having the lowest governmental corruption index in all of Mexico.

The landscape of the industrial sector is the Port of Manzanillo, a 400-hectare deep-water port that is one of the key points of the so-called *Eje del Corridor* that begins in Mexico and goes all the way to Chetumal, Yucatán.



Workers at the busy Port of Manzanillo

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CONTINUA RESEARCH holds its experts of 76,000 hectares of exploration ground in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico, located in the property portfolio are two of the most significant past producers of gold and silver in southern Mexico, the San Jose epithermal vein-gold deposit and the Hualtepec epithermal gold-silver deposit.

Continura is exploring numerous additional late advanced gold-silver projects located in Oaxaca, including the Cadagang carbonate-hosted silver, lead and copper.

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At the latest point in the country, the port had 1,575 ships docked in 2005, moving nearly 875,000 containers and roughly 71,000 cars. "We are not trying to compete with the U.S.," says Paul de Massacville, C&P's Inter-Mexo Center. "Of course we haven't had a work stoppage or a major problem in over 50 years."

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As well, Mr. Proulx points out, Canada's mining sector is one of the most important in the country. The state produces 60 percent of Mexico's iron ore, as well as important deposits of copper, pyrites, salt, dolomite and granite among others.

Meanwhile, a mining deal for a massive 1.4-billion-ton Natural Gas (LNG) project that

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The Avito mine was once described by Spaniards as a "mountain of fire" because the mine site opened in 1500 and reportedly supplied considerable wealth to Spain for hundreds of years. Now Avito Silver can capitalize on the mining efforts of the 70's and 80's when only 10% of the world's silver was produced, leaving 40% behind in the tailings to be processed by heap-leaching methods and furthermore will be processed in Mexico which is just a part of the full infrastructure that is in place.

will also be a transport of LNG, 900 kilometers east to Peru. Can in Guatemala—a contract on which from Canada produces is holding. I believe that if from Canada was the bid for the LNG plant, then Canada will have one of the most important processes of any Canadian company not only in Canada but in all of Mexico. Mr. Proulx said.

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Continued from page 12 possible. You cannot have reforms that are effective and not bearing itself out. Wang's views are reflected on the reports of Berlin. There are those who think radical changes are necessary to deal with Germany's economic problems. Hakan Fisek, who owns and runs a Turkish restaurant in the immigrant and working class neighborhood of Kreuzberg 36, says that five years ago his single-pool seven-page. Now there are three. It's too expensive for him to hire more staff, and few want to work anyway because they receive so much money in social assistance. "I would now be unemployed at home, too," he says. "In the last 10 years, people have been paid. The state gives money, money, money and doesn't expect anything in return."

Down the road is the newly Single-Eck bar, Beer Backford and Last War and are having a few beers and watching a soccer game on television. Both work for a security company, where they earn about eight euros an hour. Backford says Merkel's priorities are "the way from the people." Both expect any talk of free market reforms and divide Germany has already changed for the good.

The days, we live in a country that is oriented to an Anglo-Saxon culture that doesn't have roots here. "We're not here," Wiedel says. "We're not here." People don't understand how a company manager can wipe out 10,000 jobs. In America or Canada, people would say what is the big deal? But that's not the way here."

There are divisions too between Berlin and Backford and Wiedel and even Germany. Some think the country's economy needs a radical overhaul. But they're not in the majority, and even those who favour reform usually want to see them introduced slowly. "You can change anything that politicians are not doing," claims Wiegman says. "But politics doesn't have the vision in the world, and the election results don't give Merkel a mandate for lasting radical reforms."

To be fair, deeper double-digit unemployment in Germany is not a new problem. It's been there since the 1970s, and it's not going to disappear. But in Germany it is the last time was in the 1970s and 1980s, not a permanent problem. "We are going to see that the problem of doing change without losing Germany isn't like this."

George W. Bush, Tony Blair and Stephen Harper, for that matter, should therefore welcome Germany's chancellor as a new ally, not a rival. She will likely stand with the West in forthcoming international crises and may push others in Europe to do the same. But, for now, the Germans themselves will experience only gradual change. Germany may need more radical reforms, but Angela Merkel isn't delivering them anytime soon.

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A DELICATE COURTSHIP

A U.S. charm offensive in Vietnam aims to ease military fears of China

BY LEEBA CH. KANAWA U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld sounded a ceremonial gong at Vietnam's nearly 1,000-year-old Temple of Literature last week and emphasized his bid, Defense Minister Phan Van Kien, on his nation's pursuit of knowledge at a time in history when North Americans still lived in "totalitarian" states. They shared the history and the feeling of his three-day stay—which included a session with Prime Minister Phan Van Kien—Rumsfeld was also pointing out that the military cooperation in China's backyard. The visit was part of a delicate courtship inspired by American business interests, a Chinese military buildup that unsettles both Vietnam and the U.S., and war wounds that are not entirely healed.

George W. Bush will visit Hanoi in November for a meeting of APEC leaders. The administration has already scaled a bilateral agreement to Vietnam's entry into the World Trade Organization, despite objections from state congressmen over the country's record on rights. "I've been impressed with the Vietnamese people, with their economy," said Rumsfeld. "They have got a very good growth rate. They have a stable population and they're industrious and I think it would be a very good thing to have the U.S. in the WTO."

On the military side, Rumsfeld came with an agreement to send U.S. Vietnamese officers to train for English language training, to provide American military assistance in removing land mines and dangerous chemicals from the war-torn countryside, and to train military leaders. But there are just few steps. "They agreed we should increase the level of exchanges on all levels of the military," Rumsfeld said.

The mission is not a "charm offensive," as some are calling it. "By concrete action we're showing China military power," says Angus Seng, a fellow in China studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, a New York-based think tank. "On the U.S. side, it's clearly part of an overall bid to bring a new era of improving on cooperation with Japan, India,

and building up the base at Guam." For Vietnam, on cooperation with the U.S. provides a counterbalance to its neighbor's military might, but is so much it might prove useful only "Vietnam is a very delicate position," said Seng. The Vietnamese "have relations with China and don't want to anger China."

As for the rest, Rumsfeld said, "It might not be surprising that the U.S. is developing a very good relationship with Vietnam, just as it ought not to be in being surprised that we did so with countries that were on the



DEFENSE Secretary Donald Rumsfeld offered some limited military assistance

other side of previous conflicts." But neither is ready to leave the Vietnam War behind entirely. There are still about 1,800 American servicemen missing in action from the conflict. A seven-member team of U.S. military and civilian specialists continue their 21-year quest for remains, getting tips from fishermen, diving near reefs and disabling old boats. The job gets harder each day as some witnesses pass away and shopping malls pour over crash sites. On his trip, Rumsfeld gave agencies in Hanoi the Vietnamese to stop agencies, especially enterprises and increase access to archives and witnesses. "We don't want to forget the importance of this," he said. Now the Vietnamese want to forget their own country. They are seeking U.S. compensation for the draft and health defects caused by exposure to the chemicals used during the war. U.S. officials offered technical help but no compensation. The Vietnamese are continuing their fight, so far with little success, in American courts.

BRITAIN: AN INFLATABLE RAG DOLL FOR THE CUP
Training Germans during World War II, though British and German officials have asked others not to bring up the Second World War, Brits are taking thousands of inflatable toys that look like Nazis, the British warplane fighter plane. As it cost \$100 and is a constant of missing the rest of the war, they are not sure whether it is a good idea. "They may not like it in Germany," he says. "But who gives a damn?"



The new, frugal face of air travel

À la carte pricing has given airlines big profits. But for travellers, it means good service is history.

BY CATYRIE GILLIAN • Bruce Cran is used to having people complain. As the president of the Canadian Association of Airline Pilots, he has experience fielding thousands of phone calls from disgruntled customers each year. But it wasn't until he participated in a focus group for a certain Canadian airline a few months ago for decades (okay, which one) that he realized just how emotional people get about air travel. "Some of them were so mad at each other that they had to be separated," recalls Cran from his Vancouver office. "There were no fatalities, but there could have been."

Formerly delirious at that meeting were a variety of changes now underway at various carriers throughout the industry, including Air Canada and Westjet. These include, but are not limited to, charging customers extra for food, pillows, blankets, headsets, seat selection, paper sickness, heavy luggage, and hotel rooms when flights are cancelled due to bad weather. But what really had the participants all up in arms were increasing flight cancellations and fuel surcharges. The fuel surcharge, however, cut off those complaints, explaining why changes were "not to be discussed" that night. "He seemed to think the airlines didn't care," says Cran.

Customers may have plenty to grumble about, but shareholders are finally ecstatic. Air Canada, which emerged from bankruptcy protection in 2004, just reported first-quarter profits of \$141 million, up from \$79 million last year. The company has booked its record high in key financial indicators, including the proportion of available seats filled on a flight for 26 straight months. In fact, Westjet has seen unprecedented numbers of occupied seats, and reported record first-quarter earnings of \$12.7 million. The pricing mechanism place more has foreign carriers coming to Canada, including British Airways, which announced recently that it would increase its flights here by 30 per cent this summer. "The fundamentals of the business are quite strong right now," says financial analyst Catherine Doerflinger of Montreal-based Veatch Partners.



WANT A HEAL, a drink and a pillow? Three days, it's over you, mate.

group. Suddenly, it seems Canada is caught at this business moment of frenzy, where airlines are actually flying full planes, making money and charging passengers—all at the expense of inconvenienced customers. "The

'PEOPLE DON'T LIKE BEING NICKEL-AND-DIMED, BUT THE DEMAND FOR TRAVEL IS VERY HIGH.'

airline industry is the god of the day," says Cran, and consumers inevitably "get treated like pawns every day of our lives." (Crisis. Word: an airline analyst at Tripe Consultants in Ottawa, believes these companies have a difficult balancing act to pull off between their obligations to share

holders and commitment to customers. During the industry restructuring six years ago that saw Air Canada merge with Canadian Airlines, the worked as a mediator observer for the federal government and wrote recommendations on how carriers could improve. Today Ward says that "airline thinking is not about their operation, their planes, scheduling, and they are too close to their customers. Not for any business reason, just because they don't think of people. They think of metal."

As it happens, metal doesn't require food, which is why food and snacks (yes, in some cases even tiny packages of corn and cookies) have been cut from many domestic flights.

Passengers can still get food, only now it comes at a cost—it's what the carriers call the "buy on board" menu. For example, air travellers learn that on a recent Air Canada trip from Toronto to New York, a small tin of Pringles cost about \$2. A sandwich or wrap costs about \$5. By morning complimentary meals and snacks, airlines are among the top five in the world for purchase food for a full price, and second, by the lighted red food cart that depends on fuel.

What else is à la carte pricing will wind up costing the companies some customers will tell you. Cran believes that the airlines are "getting very close to the tolerance level" of most consumers. Individually, the fees seem insignificant. But when passengers have to pay for their favourite seat, a sandwich and pillow all during one flight, the cost add up unpleasantly, especially after these are the most we've had to date. "They're pushing to find out what else, if it's there, is going to break the camel's back."

In fact, while Westjet is notoriously generous experience for most people, passengers are put on one day based on, and these are the money for the discomfort of the flight. Sometimes are the highest for any good—or so good—reason, the same. "Five years ago, everyone was complaining about how busy the flight was, now they're complaining they're not getting their heavy food." Complaining is part of the joy of air travel. And it looks like as long as the airlines maintain their tactics to lay costs down and profits up, people will have more than enough to complain about. ■

here is "initially unfair to the customer. It's like to bring me that time on a car seat cost. It's making people."

And industry doesn't understand customer service, which Cran says has never been an airline industry forte. Perhaps knowing this, some carriers have replaced older agents with electronic ticket machines. This has made check-in quicker for the most part, but it's also created another line in some cases, says Ward, there's a change for proper paper airline tickets. For instance, Air Canada is paying \$1500 for paper tickets on international routes. When's more, seat selection can now come at a price, too—\$15 per seat on large flights. "It's like selling water in a bottle. It's something that you have to do, but if you can get you to pay for it, then they're happier," Ward concludes. But the most grievous charge, say observers, is the time that has passengers paying for a hotel room when their flight has been cancelled because of bad weather. "What do you do?" asks Cran. "Maybe you travel too, maybe you don't accommodate those into your travel."

The irony of course is that despite all the complaints, "the demand for travel in Canada is very high." Over 10 million people are travelling. Last year, more than 13 million people travelled through Canada and the U.S. up a 5 per cent from 2004, according to the Airport Council International North America. And air transportation contributed \$4.1 billion to the Canadian economy in 2005, an 18.6 per cent jump over the previous year. "People don't like being nickel and dimed," says Doerflinger, "but right now it's not affecting travel."

Whether à la carte pricing will wind up costing the companies some customers will tell you. Cran believes that the airlines are "getting very close to the tolerance level" of most consumers. Individually, the fees seem insignificant. But when passengers have to pay for their favourite seat, a sandwich and pillow all during one flight, the cost add up unpleasantly, especially after these are the most we've had to date. "They're pushing to find out what else, if it's there, is going to break the camel's back."

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ALL WORK NO PLAY, NO MORE

What happens when a company orders its workers to slow down

BY CATYRIE GILLIAN • When Microsoft boss Bill Gates was in the throes of acquiring one of its main rivals in 2005, employees at the world's second-largest software producer were humming out. "Schedules were completely out of whack. People were working seven day weeks, 13 or 14 hours a day. There was no night coming from the top down, and employees were afraid to speak up," recalls spokesperson Alice Christen. But with 65,000 workers spread across 55 countries and regions, Gates had reason to worry: global employee surveys and staff were grossly overworked, and turnover rates were swelling, especially in the all important finance departments. There was a stroke of corporate enlightenment. "We began implementing a 'work-life effectiveness strategy'—complete with coaching for top executives, rewards for work-life balance, and on-site massage centers." It's not about making employees work harder and longer, it's about making them work smarter and flexibly, explains Christen.

It's a radical change in corporate thinking for a company focused on the bottom line so much that its employees have been a bigger long-term threat to business than the short-term costs of encouraging staff to slow down. It may also stem from a growing sense of discontent about the ever-expanding workday throughout the corporate world. More than half of Canadians between the ages of 18 and 49 report that they haven't taken a satisfying balance between work and personal life, according to a 2003 Ipsos survey. What's more, even as people up the workday high speed all the time, and more in the world more than 30 hours a week in 2001—a 10 per cent increase in 10 years. "It's dangerous and unhealthy to work so hard," warns Wanda Spencer, a Toronto-based motivational speaker and author of *Get Your Passion Out of Your Profession*. "We're getting our primary relationships. And we get so far down the path of being a job that we forget that we exist in humanity."

The reason we get so caught up in simple "It has become difficult for Canadian employers to meet work expectations during regular hours," notes a British Columbia

social study on work-life conflict. It's a corporate downsizing, a technology revolution, and a global competition across time zones that has all but eradicated the traditional 9 to 5. People may be off longer and later, only to not work hours with the rest of the day and on weekends. The irony is that the more hours don't necessarily translate into productivity or positive results. At Health Canada, notes, "the link between health, mental health, and physical and mental health problems suggest that these workloads are not sustainable over the long term."

That's what Alan realized in 2005, when fired and laid-off managers in the company's primary mental health group pushed for a full-time human resources agent to develop a balance strategy. Although the pilot program was launched, and that has become the basis for the work-life effectiveness plan being implemented across the company. Top executives, supervisors and managers now



ALCAN's new strategy includes mandatory work-life balance and a full-time agent.

have regular meetings with balance experts on how to be better role models for staff. No work weekends have become the rule, and employees are urged to focus on "essential" rather than "important" tasks each day to avoid working life. Plus, activities such as yoga and fitness classes, and volunteer activities, are offered at work.

Christen says the program is meant to be a structural change in mindset, and that staff and supervisors should be themselves how to achieve balance. As Spencer explains, working the right work-life balance is a personal responsibility that changes with financial or family needs. "For the most part, we only swing through balance on any one occasion," says Spencer. "It's like a pendulum that will swing your whole life. But as long as you keep the goal of work-life balance, you won't swing too far."

IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ADVERTISING AGENCY/STUDIO; LARRY MACDONALD/ALCAN

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THE BUSINESS

The little Kings and Queens of the mall



STEVE MANN

When housewives and marketing gurus talk about the big picture trends that really matter, there are two of them: the rise of the young adult and the rise of the young adult.

But even these figures don't adequately describe the true power that this kids world is the

roughly 14 per cent of the population. These are the kids of the young adult boomers, some times referred to as the echo generation, and they have more money than you might think. Rosenberg estimates they directly spend about US\$1.2 billion annually in the U.S., and all of that income is discretionary since the kids can be counted on to take care of stuff like clothes and groceries.

What's more, the new adult market boomers explore no uncertain growth in a very short time, whereas older age groups are lucky if their disposable income keeps pace with the economy and inflation. The median 13-year-old American has about US\$1,900 a year to spend, and that figure climbs to US\$4,500 by age 17. No other age group can hope to use its income to play in five years.

But even these figures don't adequately describe the true power that this kids world is the

Rosenberg, they absorb magazines (they're seen glossy weeklies, filled with words and celebrities, offer the best advertising medium for reaching the teen reader—even better than TV and Internet).

But some things are changing. It will come as no surprise to parents that kids are growing up later than ever before, and issues in everything from clothes to entertainment are maturing at a much younger age. This may be threatening for teens and dad, but for retailers it presents huge opportunities. It means every trendy electronic like cell phones and MP3 players can now be marketed directly at the youth market. It also means that things traditionally aimed at older age groups, such as cosmetics and grooming products, are selling earlier and in greater quantities. For example, a few years ago, Procter & Gamble introduced Arc body

The most powerful force in business today is in your basement, playing video games

market. Any game will tell you it's children that are really driving their spending decisions, on everything from what car to buy, where to eat and where to go on vacation. Several studies estimate that American kids direct as much as US\$175 billion in consumer spending annually, and as much as \$10 billion a year in Canada. This is "arguably the most hidden demographic story on earth," Rosenberg says. "The investment implications are potentially enormous."

If you doubt that, consider a survey conducted in early 2003 by Los Angeles-based search firm Look Look, which specializes in youth marketing. They asked 20,000 kids as young as 11 what brands they'd most like to endorse if they were celebrities. The top choice was Apple, whose iPod and G4 computers were just starting to take off. At the time of the survey, Apple's stocks did for about US\$60 a share. Last week, it was trading at US\$150.

So if you're looking for ways to reach your stock portfolio, try skipping in a few questions between your car's start/stop session of *Newsline* and *Entertainment*. Even if that doesn't work, we already know a few things about these kids: and how to take their money. Just as you may remember—they like clothes, dance moves, fast food, video games and music. Sometimes surprisingly, according to



THE NEW kid specialist: Huge opportunities

spring, aimed directly at male teens. That US\$200 million in sales in 2003 and now can make it a per cent of happily growing market.

All this is more than a mere curiosity, it's a firm a chance. You can follow the herd—place your bet on retirement homes and the last on blood pressure drug—or you can start combing the pages of *Teen* and *Entertainment* for new ideas. If you choose the latter, expect a lot of company. The demographic crash does not remain undisturbed for long. Playing the baby boom is yesterday's strategy, but the echo is just beginning. M

EMPLOYEE
WEEK

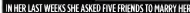
WINK FOR YOUR JOB OR BGG FOR IT AFTERWARD
Executives at Whelan's petroleum monopoly have been suspended from participating in a modern version of Communist-style "voluntary activities." Their crime: against the masses is refusing to participate in sample. Petrochemical industry insider called 21 people to write "self-criticism" for not doing a contract-signing ceremony last week. Said one official: "No one has been laid off yet, but they have to criticize themselves."

Parents are the front line, but this museum helps



By the end of a three-hour tour, most visitors emerge drained and disturbed. Toronto's museum dedicated to it, "tolerance" turns out to be a complicated business, with real people holding conflicting views. There's talk about human dignity but also bantered-edged commentary on the limits of tolerance. *—a group of Canadian journalists on their last march up to see the Tools for Tolerance*

Black World Cup soccer fans afraid of racially motivated beatings, gay Indian men most at risk for AIDS because of discrimination, suspected Indian terrorists plotting the beheading of Canadian politicians, and Toronto-area mosques vandalized in retaliation—the only questions about a museum dedicated to intolerance is whether it can keep up with such a swirling world out there. ■

[illegible]

Pink's role included setting the record straight in some cases, or ratcheting a first angle. "Whenever my assistant around town," he says, "John Denver, for instance, I know any reporter pulling out his clip file to make the plane crash would see those two second-hand driving convictions and jumping to the conclusion Denver was loaded in the plane. I know for a fact he wasn't." In the case of John Belushi, Pink wanted to upon the patchy cast of affidavits and non-stop partying, to concentrate on the two people closest to the actor. "His wife Judy and Dan Aykroyd were on the sidelines of this country at the time. I wanted their perspective, why they didn't probably have helped. To the day, Aykroyd

The next is a book that occurs in gold through our medieval literature with larger-than-life figures. But which is so good in its accumulation of mostly hand details, that their personification can power to be found. Do even face one that Devered used. Tolden's gold book, or that full hand lines and bones for dinner two weeks before her died? They may say that's what they want—the human side of their celebration—but *Violence* to name. He was willing to take his chances, though. "I was and to go deeper into the lives, to a level groups columns don't usually go."

The Yohoumen tribe on the south Pacific island of Tanna have a god and his name is the Duke of Edinburgh. Residents of the island, part of the nation of Vanuatu, have taken to worshipping his picture. Tribal chief Jack Malua has moved calls for Philo to go live there. "We won't have to hunt for pigs or anything, we can just sit in the sun and have a nice time." Philo is said to be aware of the cult but has no plans of further improving his status.



CAOL has two grandmasters—Gornally (bottom, left) and Armanus—fighting for her

GET YOUR PAWNS OFF OF MY QUEEN

The 'Anna Kournikova of chess' has sparked a violent love triangle

BY HANCO MADDENHALL • British chess star Daniela Gornally and Armanus Loren, Armanus—the world's oldest online player—were out jousting earlier this month during the World Chess Olympiad in Turin, Italy. Gornally, apparently drunk, hit Armanus on the nose with an antique Armanus Cooch—known as the "Anna Kournikova of chess"—that he leveled his rival to the ground. Gornally had recently cracked open a can of soda topped with the chess beauty, and didn't like the moves Armanus was making on the dame floor. Fast forward to the next morning, when the Armanus team coach brought in Gornally while he was out for coffee. Dubbed "Gornallygate" by chess fans, this international incident is providing the rest of the world as distant glances of the game since the historic Cold War on match between Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky in 1972. And with it, the image of chess as the gentleman's sport is coming undone.



You might expect this kind of behavior from college football stars, but grandmasters? This is the chess player's sport, after all—the ultimate intellectual pursuit. But chess stars, it appears, are no better adjusted than your average first-round draft pick. Not that there haven't been signs of that before. This century's only club's most famous alumnus is Chicago-born Bobby Fischer—the raging, few-hairing neofascist who now calls himself a hoarse. And the sport attracts Fischer-like obscure misfits—the type happy to spend Sundays watching pawns lead. At its highest level, the game requires—no, demands—that sort of obsessive concentration. Matches often exceed five hours. And while from pecking chess



chess—now common, according to the Chess Federation of Canada's Robert Houtman—should be assumed. Male or female, eccentric, even, pop, they grandmaster were to win Chess, according to the late great Emanuel Lasker, the longest reigning world champ, has finally been elevated to a science, or an art. In Lasker's opinion chess is neither. Instead, he once said, it's what human nature most deeply indulges in: a fight. ■

pieces and hitting the clock, the only movement during the long silent hours of a match is the rise and fall of players' chests.

Stone-faced, players churn through thousands of possible moves on their head at every turn, in an effort to outmaneuver their opponent. Chess large—to capture, to crush, to defeat—suggests that in chess, as with any sport, there's no second place. Russian great Viktor Korchnoi has always said that winning at chess requires hating your opponent. That's violence in this struggle to the end. And while usually the killer instinct doesn't manifest itself physically, as it does in, say, hockey, there have been physical altercations: in the late 1970s, organizers of a world championship match had to put a board and by the table to rivals Karpov and Anatoly Karпов couldn't kick each other.

Like in any sport, there are also brittle egos in the world of chess, and Gornally may be more fragile than others, in part, due to his second side in the ranking. While Armanus, 21, is now recognized as a future world champion, Gornally, 30, who stumbled in Turin, has slipped off the charts. Cooch (whose nick name is a reference to the sex toy name Cooch), has been passed at the nose—perhaps for "it is my weakness to sometimes start a scandal that is between myself and another to test reactions," wrote the 29-year-old on her website after the scrap.

Regardless of whether it's Gornally or Cooch, it's hard to find a strong link to a chess player's chess-poor Armanus, the Kournikova of chess is becoming a sportswoman's most tired cliché. And Cooch isn't even the only grandmaster to get Kournikovaed—she shares the honor with Russian chess star Alexander Kosteniuk. That young, sexy grandmaster is ending at chess—now common, according to the Chess Federation of Canada's Robert Houtman—should be assumed. Male or female, eccentric, even, pop, they grandmaster were to win Chess, according to the late great Emanuel Lasker, the longest reigning world champ, has finally been elevated to a science, or an art. In Lasker's opinion chess is neither. Instead, he once said, it's what human nature most deeply indulges in: a fight. ■



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BUS UNCLE'S PRESSURE IS A POP SENSATION
When asked to talk more publicly on his phone, King King bus passenger Robert Chen responded with a one-minute rant. Another later recorded it on a video phone and posted it on YouTube.com. It's been downloaded as millions of times and became a pop phenomenon. "Bus Uncle" has inspired musicians to do music versions in rap, disco and Canto-pop, and phones such as "I've got pressure" are now ubiquitous party bumpers.

**Stygn en
Landsforsting**
1980

The Price Is Right at 50
PAGE

Frank Gehry,
fellow elder
B.34

**The rules to
posts might
not**

Only in
Winnipeg

Food fight
slurms on
Polo

music So it's official: now he's 64. When the young Paul McCartney penned his eponymous era in the 1960s, the rock star's attitude was "I hope I die before I get old," he probably never thought he'd live that long. At the end, he had no reason to doubt that some lovely woman would be around to answer the call as he crooned, "Will you still love me, will you still find me? And when we're old, will you still see me?" And when he's old, he's expected to be

For he was always the lovable one. Joe was shy and unassuming with his narrow-eyed stare and cerebral grin. George was soldierly and outgoing, a man of action. He was the one who would get the job done.

And what was in it for Paul? A great deal. A man intent on being Mr. Nice Guy needs a wife to take care of all the nasty bits. Paul likes to seem easygoing, charming and cool, and it's worked very well for him to convey the image of a decent, likeable man as the mercy of a woman who was a bit of a harrier. With his two unpopular wives, Paul provided himself with a lightning rod, someone to take the flak (as Linda did when he set up Wayne's) and channel bad feelings away from him.

So it was with the Clintons. By offering Hillary's political participation, Bill very cleverly set her up to become the unpopular face of his presidency, devolving onto her all the less-very-appealing aspects of his agenda. He also succeeded in persuading the world that she was the money-until-crisis, when he had been the Oxford University Rhodes Scholar and was known to some as one of the best brains

In his uncertainty, later declaring, "In over 30 years, Linda and I have never spent a night apart other than enforced absence. When people asked us, 'Why not?' we would reply, 'What for?'"

Linda gave Paul into vegetarianism and animal rights at a time when both were regarded by most Brits as kooky notions, strictly for cranks. Just at the same time, she kept his feet on the ground. Despite almost unimaginable wealth and fame, Linda and Paul created a normal English life, being modestly well-sending their child not to ordinary schools. Linda gave Paul the family life he had lost when his mother died. More than that, she gave him what he prized above all, a life beyond the Beatles.

But always he was the lionho. He created Wings, he insisted on incorporating Leads, and he made all the musical decisions that resulted in Wings being one of the warm bands ever. But Paul united his way through all the rotten eggs, and gave the critics credit on the eye when Wings had a massive hit with the unlikably popular *Hotel California*.

how and he learns to recognize his way through these minefields," John recalls, "and I'm grounded. Paul was then determined to cover his feelings after his mother's death. His father's psychological behavior was plain to see as his heart grew great into an angry, hurtful man. At last, he was serene, witty and edgy, a sweet, litigiously calm. Working with John, Paul finally picked up the knock of being the Blackie—now the baby to John's mother and grandfather. His mother was a saint and god. His mother rewarded John's increasing selfishness, but kept the bond loose. The mother and father were loving, normal and authoritarian when John was claiming they were "better than Jesus."

By nature, with his round innocent eyes and luscious doll mouth, Paul learned how to do cute without ever making it look like an act. He became a genius at the unforced, natural look. Look at the early footage now, and it's clear that he was working the camera in ways the other Beatles simply weren't. "Twinkle twinkle" go the bright shiny eyes, "Wiggle wiggle" the expressive eyebrows, and even his shoulders are rolled as punctuation marks for the occasional telltale shrug.

Psychologists call it the halo effect: the ability of some individuals to appear virtuous in comparison with others, no matter what they do. And in his heyday, Paul did plenty. A 1972 bust for cannabis in Sweden was the first in a string of drug-related arrests. A reward for a robbery of a house, Paul

He's 64 and still the lovable one. But how will he manage without an unpopular wife to do all the dirty work?

Marjory Leach on March 12, 1969, was one of the smartest things Paul ever did. Through her, Paul succeeded in transcending his class origins, for Leach was a true American princess. The daughter of a lawyer who had made a fortune in the entertainment business, she was also a woman of achievement in her own right, launching her photographic career at the top by shooting the Rolling Stones and in 1987 being voted U.S. Photographer of the Year.

Linda was also older and more experienced than Paul, another strike against her for the fans, but a profound match for Paul, who had lost his mother at the age of 14. Paul became deeply in thrall to his wife, disowned by her class and culture, and he needed

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BACK IN 2002, French President Jacques Chirac (left) and Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin (right) were America's biggest allies...

You can't believe your lyin' eyes

The Islamomooching has gone into full gear. What's the harm? This is how nations die.

BY MARK STEIN

Within a few hours of these arrests from the "what sounds plausible"—"three stars" of Canadian society, I had a little flurry of emails from radio and TV producers inviting me to come along two hrs. But my reply was on "Islam is pretty much the same as any two bits on London and Madrid and Bali, and that's quite a neutral of violence piled up over the past years. What's to say?" The best answeration is a line I first quoted in 2002, when a French oil tanker was attacked off the coast of Yemen. Back then, you'll recall, the French foreign minister was depicting American "simplicity" on a daily basis, and M. Chirac was the principal orchestrator of the neocon/Zein al-Habib plan to invade the Middle East. If you were to pick only one Western nation not to blow up the oil tankers of France would surely be it.

But they got blown up anyway. And afterwards a spokesman for the Islamic Army of Aden said, "We would have preferred to be a US target, but no problem because they are all infidels."

No problem. They say all infidels. In the scheme of things, launching a plot to behind the Prime Minister of Canada would not seem to be an obvious priority. No doubt they would have preferred to behind the President of the United States. But no problem. We are all infidels.

The multicultural society insists that each of its citizens are held a complementary portfolio of identification can be automatically be Canadian and all of them are and yet all of them and all of their identities are not within your corporate form in perfect harmony. But, for most Western Muslims, there is no problem.

many identities, and for a significant number thereof, it's a primary identity that exists in opposition to all others. That's mostly using the obvious. But, of course, to test the obvious is unwise. But this, too, as our leaders prefer to state the obvious, I believe the old definition of a mass murder was the gap between a New York traffic light changing to green and the first bomb of a driver behind you. Today, the definition of a mass murder is the gap between a Western terrorist incident and the press release of a Muslim lobby group warning of an impending outbreak of Islamophobia. After the London and Bali bombings, *Le Monde* wrote the *Assassins* of the Blue is a more perfect parody of the typical newspaper headline:

"British Muslims face repression over country's terror bombing"

An adjective here and there, and that would serve just as well for much of the coverage by the Toronto Star and the CBC, where a stone through a mosque window is a bigger threat to the social fabric than a bombing threat to the site of the Oldham City explosion. "Minority rights doctrine," writes Michael Phillips in her new book *Landscapes*, "has produced a moral anarchy, in which those doing wrong are excused if they belong to a 'victim' group, while those in the wronging end of their behaviour are blamed simply because

they belong to the 'oppressed' majority." If you want to appreciate the forces at play among Western Muslims in societies estranged by multiculturalism, *Landscapes* is an indispensable read. "It is impossible to overstate the importance—not just to Britain but to the global struggle against Islamist extremism—of properly understanding and publicly challenging this moral, intellectual and philosophical erosion, which translates aggression into victim and vice versa."

That's true—although I wonder for how long even our decayed multiculturalists can keep up the act. After the London bombings, the first instance of Brian Paddick, the deputy assistant commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, was to declare that "Islam and terrorism don't go together." After the Toronto arrests, the CBS news anchor declared "It is important to know that this operation in no way suggests negatively on any specific community, or on thousands of people in Canada."

"Why is it so important?" The RCMP diversity outreach press officer or your best friend? In the old days, these things would have been looking for the media opportunity of a lifetime. But now every little incident on the place is apparently strictly specific and self alluded to local.

The other day, listening to an interview on America's National Public Radio with the mayor of Toronto, I was laughing as I missed a radio of David Miller wanted up



ISLAMIC EXTREMISTS blew up a French tanker enway. When everyone's an infidel...

with a bit of bedside Islamomooching: "You know, in Islam, if you kill one person, you kill everybody. It's a very peaceful religion. And they're as shocked as Torontoians are. And..."

Renee Montague, the well-known, instantly spotted the ghastly breach of PC etiquette and leapt in: "Well, they are not all 'Islamic' either," she pointed out.

"Sorry," paled the mayor, hastily remembering Muslims within the great diversity club. "They're shocked as every Torontoian is..."

Thereafter, Ms. Montague expressed bitterness that these allegedly alleged infidels would have wanted to commit a terrorist attack in what was, compared to the Great Britain not do, "a very open society, very liberal immigration policy, very good social services."

Mayor Miller agreed "More than half of the people who live in Toronto, including myself, were born in Canada. And I think that's why Canada works."

"Although it didn't work in this case," Ms. Montague pointed out, somewhat maliciously. "Well, we don't expect their kinds of occurrences, especially because of our public services, because of diversity." Blah, blah, *Islamic* is not a direct any relation between jihadists and "good social services," the latter seems to attract the former—at least in the sense that Ahmed Razaavi, Zae Moazzama, the three brothers, the tube bombers, etc., were all products of the Toronto Canadian welfare system. But go ahead, get it out that these guys were up to some illustrious "social services," they wanted to behind Stephen Harper to highlight the fact that we're times for the behemoth at the Toronto General are now up to 35 months, and they don't always reach the right hand. It's easy to scoff at a chap who can be behind blowing up the Canadian Parliament may be insane, but if you were a jihadist writing in the cave back in the Abbot's Rush listening to Renee

Montague and David Miller, wouldn't you conclude that they're the ones who are mad? The Islamic Army of Aden PR guy seems by comparison to have a relatively clear signal of sanity.

Michael Phillips makes a point that applies to Britain, Canada and beyond: "With law enforcement, politicians, Whitehall officials, senior police and intelligence officers and academic experts have tried to grasp the problem to be confronted is not just the assembly of bombs and poison fumes but when it goes on under people's heads that drive them to such acts. These are not Push can you loaden straight off the boat blowing up trains and buses. They're young men, most of whom were born and all of whom were bred in London, Toronto and other Western cities. And defined the ability of a contemporary and sophisticated society they looked elsewhere—and found the jihad. If we try to fight it straightened out media—sensible attack here, a belated there—we will never win. You have to take on the ideology and the networks that sustain it and think there. Does David Miller sound like a man who's up to that challenge? A leader in Iran, John Goss, emailed me to thank the mayor's approach at "Don't get mad, get even... smugger!"

Well, if there were a man to make himself a bugaboo, what's the harm? Only this—the more rubbish spoken by attention the wider of these events, the more the wrongly self informed person will move the dissembling. In that sense, Mayor Michael, Pundit, Commissioner Paddick et al are colluding in the delegitimation of the view's undertone. That doesn't seem like a smart move.

One final thought. Miss Phillips is one of Britain's best-known newspaper columnists. She appears constantly on national TV and radio. No publisher has lost money on her. Yet Londoners would say been published first in New York, and its subsequent appearance

MACLEAN'S BESTSELLERS

COMPILED BY BRIAN BETHUNE

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in Britain is finally not so little, Brown (who published her last big book) but so a small independent imprint called Gibson Square. I don't know Miss Phillips's agent, but it's hard not to suspect that glamorous literary London decided it would prefer to keep a safe distance from this incendiary subject.

That's how anxious it is—not by one or two, but by a thousand right now, and until you day you wake up and you don't need to sign a formal statement of disavowal because you're in the presence. How many Muslims in Toronto sympathetic with the men of these arrested last night? Maybe we could use a book on the subject. But which Canadian house would publish it? And would the fans hearts at last go-Chapters carry it? ■



FINALLY A BOOK ABOUT... PICASSO'S DOGS

In 1963, photographer David Douglas Duncan gave his friend Pablo Picasso a present—a dachshund named Leo. The artist took the dog in 45 interpretations of Velázquez's 17th-century masterpiece *Las Meninas*—now the main draw at Barcelona's Picasso museum—the replaced Velázquez's giant hound with Leo, Picasso's dog. Leo (Picasso), Duncan's tribute to an unlikely king of modern art, includes photos of 14 of the Velázquez series.

MARK STEIN

ANDREW LEVITT



THE GUGGENHEIM BLEND art museum. In Spain began with a doodle—from the pen of Canadian-born architect Frank Gehry

Drawing on Gehry's imagination

Sydney Pollack's doc reveals a childlike mischief behind the blockbuster talent

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

Look at the scribble at the top of this page. Like a Rorschach ink blot, it could suggest a lot of different things to different people. Ship. Dinosaur. Slaph. Vacuum cleaner. Only when you place the sketch next to a photograph of the Guggenheim Bilbao art museum in Spain does it become obvious: Oh, it's a *headling*. Like a movie born from a promise scribbled on a cocktail napkin, this pop land mark begins with a doodle—from the playful pen of Canadian-born architect Frank Gehry.

Blockbuster movies and blockbuster buildings have a lot in common. They attempt art on an industrial scale. They're designed to wow us. And they have nine-figure budgets. Gehry's Guggenheim Bilbao won three U.S. movie awards, *cheap* at the price in 1992, and a bargain compared to *Shogun: The Great Lesson*, which cost the same, opened the same year, and vanished without a trace. It's no surprise that a version of Hollywood's studio system, Oscar-winning filmmaker Sydney Pollack (*Thelma & Louise*), should find an affinity with Gehry, architect's reigning superior. Long-time friends in Los Angeles, Pollack and Gehry are both men on their 70s who learned to harness creative ambition to other people's money. Sketcher of Frank Gehry, Pollack's first feature documentary, is a reverential portrait of the artist as a fellow elder.

The architect has his critics, and Pollack strives to include them. An academic suggests that Gehry's efforts are overpriced, branded for the media, and that "some other work is extremely ugly." But painter John Schmalz—holding court in a white bathrobe, cocktail in hand—bens down the naysayers with one

line: "It's like watching *Apocalypse Now* and saying Robert DeNiro is over the top."

The movie could be viewed as bapography were it not for Gehry's modest presence onscreen. His buildings aren't self-effacing, but he is. Interviewed by phone from his office in Los Angeles, the 77-year-old architect even suggests the film was too soft on him: "It could have been a little more balanced," he says, "only so people don't think they've been sold a bill of goods." A pause. A weary sigh. Then he adds, "I don't know. No amount of outside criticism has ever gotten close to my own critical evaluations of my work."

The documentary unfolds as a string of conversations between Gehry and Pollack, who shows video as he talks—intercut with unscripted and rhapsodic images of Gehry's buildings on film. Pollack himself lessons a character in the movie, which was not his intention. "I found that whole idea to be the height of narcissism," he said last week, on the phone from L.A. "My discussions with Frank were meant to make him comfortable and draw him out—they weren't meant to be in the picture." But Pollack's producer and second camera operator the conversation—to give the editor more angles. "Then the editor started cutting me into it," says the director, "and I kept talking myself out, say-

ing I'm going to get killed by critics and audiences. I got talked into leaving it in."

Pollack shot his scenes with Gehry over a five-year stretch, mostly at weekends. "He and I had been having these conversations at various dinner parties," says Gehry. "Early on, I was judgmental of the film industry. It was a time when I was colder than thou, 25 years ago. I said, 'How can you justify doing this?' He said, 'If you do a woman, the woman has a form. You've got to follow it. But there have been some great women.' It made me realize I was in the same sort of buildings. You learn to work with a lot of constraints and be creative within that."

What's extraordinary about Gehry is that he's managed to convert so much discomfort and turmoil into just sheer structure. With their crumpled planes and vainglorious corners, his buildings look like they're trying to escape their walls. And the film shows them being built out of chaos. As Gehry and a design partner lean with an acher childhood model, they're like a pair of gladiators in a vicious knife-fight, clanging the world with tension and Scotch grease lubricated by a black wall, Gehry says, "It needs to be crinkler." He asks for something crinkled. The partner crumples folds a piece of cardboard like an accordion, cuts it, and glues it against the wall. "That's so magical looking, it's great," says Gehry. Pollack repeats the line back to him. He admires Gehry's sense of mischief. It's made him of something a



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Some look. Others see.



WE'RE STALKING NICOLE KIDMAN

As her wedding to country singer Keith Urban approaches, Kidman has taken extraordinary steps to exclude the paparazzi. Like Russell Crowe, she plans to herd out privacy-seeking photographers and video to the media hours after the nuptials. And she's said to have spent \$150,000 reserving all the helicopters in the Sydney area, then denying them to photographers. If that doesn't work, she's also considering holding the wedding in the dark.

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film

teacher once told him—that " talent is hereditary trait." Gehry, who grew up as Frank O. Goldberg before changing his name, traces his love for architecture to his Toronto childhood. His grandmother would jump-rope off the floor in front of the wood stove and they would build castles. " Later," he told me, " I realized it was an adult giving me license to play, to build things that inspired a sense of awe across nature through playing with blocks."

At 17, Gehry moved with his family to Los Angeles, where both he and his father worked as truck drivers. Later he studied architecture at the University of Southern California, but he became a successful architect, but after designing a Santa Monica mall he vowed to stop creating buildings he didn't like.

Gehry became famous for working on studios with cheap industrial materials. Before he won the contract to design the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, he says, " I was told I wouldn't get it in because of my propensity for using low-budget materials—that I wouldn't know how to use a brass handrail." He resents being open to " If you go in to see Walt Disney Concert Hall, you'll see it's filled with brass handrails."

In the film, Gehry admits he's deeply in-

Pumping for Jesus, and more



SCOTT FEINBERG

Witness to another installment of *This Just Is*, your source for all the breaking news that you need to know—especially if you need to know a lot of painful things.

This Just Is: U.S. scientists claim to have found for some reason the world's first fully friendly "super cat"—a hyperorganic feline that won't agitate the symptoms of those who are allergic to such pets. As the *Diogenes* company produced the cat using a process called "genetic divergence"—in which it isolates the undesirable aspect of the feline's genetic code and breeds it into extinction over a number of generations. *Diogenes* demonstrates the many human uses of its invention, the firm will next use the technique to rid Hollywood of *Bollywood*.

This Just Is: Making the Squad, a new reality TV show about 100 young hopefuls who audition to be considered for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, promises to "take viewers behind the scenes to give an understanding and appreciation of what it takes to become an NFL cheerleader." Spoiler alert: Turns out it pretty much takes "boobies."

This Just Is: Disney has decided to start its global promotional deal with McDonald's and has begun licensing fresh fruit in European supermarkets. The company wants to dissociate itself from products that can be linked to childhood obesity—though apparently not from products that are really, really sugary. For instance, Disney is now putting "collectible" stickers on the stem of fruit while simultaneously publishing books into which the stickers can be placed. (What is a different company producing the garbage cans into which the books will be placed?) Meanwhile, the company is developing a new "Winnie the Pooh" movie in which the Hundred Acre Wood animals for a Vixen Tey's and the whole, overnight bear denials Type 2 diabetes.

This Just Is: Barbara Streisand will perform across the United States for the first time in a decade because she determined to raise money to help fight chronic fatigue. Her recent risk was argued that in terms of the catastrophic toll to be exacted on humanity

by global warming, this tour will rank right up there.

This Just Is: Belgian broadcaster Pat Robertson is standing by his claim that a few years back, when he was 75 years old, he successfully suppressed 2,000 lb—more than three times the weight typically pressed by the strongest of professional football players. Robertson, now 76, attributes his remarkable achievement to "an age-defying protein shake," plenty of exercise and the fact that he's lying. In a recently unveiled complex coincidence, Robertson just so happens to be peddling a new product, a "diet shake" that "makes people strong and keeps them youthful." It's no nutritional fix, but the product seems to focus on reducing back strain by tightening the walls of the exceedingly dry arid.

This Just Is: According to new research, crews play tricks on each other and speak in a dialect all their own, leading observers to marvel at the "unexpected similarities between the wild birds and humans." A prominent nature writer contends that crews tend to share several hallmarks of higher intelligence including tool use, sophisticated human-like behavior and a general resistance to Kevin Costner personas in which he's not a beach player.

This Just Is: It was another good week for big drug companies, thus evening their streak of consecutive good weeks to "all of them." The European Medicines Agency (EMA) has ruled that children as young as eight can be given the antidepressant Prozac, despite concerns that it can trigger suicidal feelings. Dr. Lilly, the company that makes Prozac, said it would strive to minimize this side effect by "maybe shaping the pill like Black or something. Shook inside everyone happy?" The EMA also called for research into whether Prozac is effective with the social development of young patients. In a statement, the agency said, "We've should probably find that out before we approve the drug for use in defenseless children... eh, eh, whatever."

This Just Is: A new study claims that road rage is far more common than previously thought. Researchers at Harvard Medical School and the University of Chicago found that "cruciate" incrimination exposure disorder (CED) affects four percent of the U.S. population. (That number rises to six percent in New York and 100 percent in San Francisco's living room.) Those with CED tend to overreact to situations with unusual table rage and an inappropriate level of violence. Suspected offenders include Jack Nicholson, Russell Crowe and Geddy Lee.

Scott Feinberg can be reached at gf@wired.com or www.gf.com

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THE BLUBAG: Architecture in moving picture

views of painters and regains that he's "never been able to achieve a quarter surface." Pollock is not about to let that one slip by. "Oh yeah?" he says in a voice-over, then cuts to a screen of breathtaking images that show Gehry's buildings, being painted by light and rain. With no lines (no curves and straight lines), the Blubag appears to be remapped in water and sky, a moving picture in the flesh.

While considering that his buildings can be "in your face," Gehry blanches at the word "grandeur." And although Brad Pitt likes to drop by the office ("he's a nice kid"), the architect seems unimpressed by fame, making his own. He seems embarrassed that his name has become a brand, just as he's embarrassed that he is his first wife's partner in charge of Frank Gehry. "In my bones," Pitt confesses, "I'm Canadian." "By now, I'm Canadian," he says, as if to explain his mood. "Right now I want to hide under the blanket. I think I'm Canadian." ■



PHANTOMPALOOZA 2 brought together the original cast, as Winnipeggers could pay tribute. Paul Williams said he "felt like a beetle."

The Phantom strikes in Winnipeg

Critics panned Brian De Palma's *Faustian* film, but it's still a hit in the Peg, 30 years on

BY HANLY MACDONALD • On Halloween weekend 1978, Brian De Palma's *Phantom of the Opera* opened in North America. Sixed-out by critics, scorned by moviegoers, it tanked at the box office. Except in Winnipeg, where, for over a year, the outrageous rock opera played to a consistently rapt-as-hell house. This spring, its cast reunited in the Peg for a tribute, "Phantompalooza 2," where hard-core fans (they make Deathbats look suburban) gave them their due—three decades later.

As young De Palma was moved to make the *Phantom* spoof, the story of an artist who sells his soul for such 'n' not fame, who having a rock classic reworked two months in 1966. The recording industry was ripe for a takeover, and De Palma delivered with a cocked-up, crazy, shriek-singing glam rocker carrying it up on first high platform shoes, and grinning as playing guitar behind his head as an audience practically in heat for it. But his (the film critic) wasn't amused.

"Pay a visit to Brian De Palma's new film," Rex Reed warned shortly after its release, "and you'll want to throw up." Denying the musical score as "so far offensively atrocious that getting through it without Q-tips will be one of the year's toughest coups," the *Chicago* critic cracked it "a junk pile of hysteria and ineptitude."

It may be worth stopping elsewhere, but Doug Cadogan, now 41, a webmaster and now chair of the Phantompalooza 2 organizing committee, remembers it as his first Winnipeg school like a virus, felled by word of mouth from older siblings. Glynis Dugmore, who was 12 when she first saw the movie, warns that her friend Mike failed Grade 5 because of his obsession with it. (Shawn, the *Mad Max* fan, noted that in the movie, was

Dugmore's first crush, he mentioned her in love with Phoenix, the female lead.) According to, says Dugmore, a legal assistant with the city of Winnipeg, students received *Phantom* scenes and learned it in their movies at recess.

Shortly after *Phantom*'s 41-week run in Winnipeg, Paul Williams, who wrote the film's soundtrack and played the film's narrator, gave a live radio-TV show to a Winnipeg audience that featured "Sweet Sweet." The seriously evil five-foot-tall lead (like a "mad scientist with Marilyn Monroe wig," according to Reed), was played by his own Winnipegger. The soundtrack will have local radio stations—mostly gold in Canada, thanks to the Peg, where roughly half its copies were sold. Trying to catch it, on the cruise, the Manitoba Opera staged an impromptu *Phantom* at the Winnipeg Public Library, which owns two copies of *Candleman*, bought five copies of *Phantom*.

Intensely curious, An Kahn, 44, because the film is a movie-theatre in San Francisco at the age of 12. It lasted a few days later. "Nobody had ever seen anything like it," says Kahn, a Bay-area lawyer, "but apparently nobody—outside Winnipeg—wanted it." The only organizer of April's *Phantompalooza 2* born outside Winnipeg, Kahn met Cadogan and Dugmore at the Peg's first *Phantompalooza* in 2005. After its surprising

success (a sold-out crowd swelled the stage), the organizers went for broke. Rerunning it up for 2006, they brought in the entire principal cast, including Paul Williams, Jessica Harper, William Finley and Gertie Green. (The one who played the Jacy Priest arrived with walkers and wheelchair, making the melange.) "It's the only cast who've never been confronted with the idea that their work was meaningful and important to all of these people," says Kahn, "because they live in these unappreciative suburbs like L.A. and New York, and their fans are in Winnipeg."

That night, the Garrick theatre, where most local fans saw the movie in '78, doubled for the movie's rock palace, the Paradise. During his performance, Williams, a Grammy- and Oscar-winning composer, broke down twice. He says Winnipeg is "the only place in the world I've ever felt like a beetle." Organizers swear this was the final *Phantompalooza*. But it's probably not the last one. *Winnipeggers* will sing along to *Somewhere Super Late* too. Steven Schipper, artistic director of the Manitoba Theatre Centre, was in the crowd—the MTC's hoping to bring *Phantom* to the stage for its 2006/07 season.

No one knows exactly why the film resonated the way it did with *Winnipeggers*. Some, unfairly, point to the city's isolation and the dearth of better options. But there's a third theory: *Phantom* is no longer an isolated hit. The French have made it a cult phenomenon, too. Part of the *Phantom* interest



PERFORMANCE OF THE WEEK... BIRD FLU DANCE

This funny chicken dance of death isn't keeping the Ivory Coast. Created by 20-year-old Lil Lewis, the dance steps include heaving arms, neck convulsing and creaking in imitation of chickens being slaughtered to stop the spread of the bird flu, which invaded the west African nation in May. Says Lewis, "If we kill all our chickens, our cousins in the village will be safer. I created the bird flu dance to put joy back into our hearts."



NABOB FULL CITY DARK. WHEN YOU LOVE IT THIS DARK.





MOST MOLECULAR GASTRONOMY chefs owe their creative inspiration to Ferran Adrià (above), so why are they judging other chefs?

Isn't that my tofu pillow of ham?

A food fight over recipes is breaking out in the rarefied world of molecular gastronomy

BY AMY ROBERT • The TV's apprentice system is a longstanding tradition in culinary circles. Pay it forward, spread the word. But in the trendy new world of molecular gastronomy, things aren't quite so collegial.

Chef Claudio Aprile of Senses restaurant (Toronto) trained last summer in Spain with molecular gastronomy wunderkind Ferran Adrià at his shrine like El Bulli restaurant, and also stayed by Josep Adrià's residence gastronomy kitchen at Altea in Chicago, where the 35-ounce "twee" menu features items like "Soup From Tofu Pillows of Lavender Ice Cream."

Like Adrià's culinary life, Adrià's kitchen is full of induction burners, thermal cocotters, and dehydrators—all geared up for kitchen use. Adrià has recently introduced chefs (some when he's up to Montreal to say, Aprile, the line appears to be the Canadian molecular gastronomy throne, pecked up inspiration at both hot spots, some of which has shown up on the Senses menu. One recent dinner there featured hot and cold gazpacho, a "puff" of cucumber soup, cream truffle and pink peppercorn (held together with collagen chloride and sodium alginate).

Apparently, not everyone in town appreciated the innovations. Aprile says another Canadian chef told Adrià about his methods at Senses—and, unfortunately, goes has open kitchen, it seems. Adrià is not pleased. Food fight?

"I think a lot of these chefs—except for Adrià—live in glass houses," says Aprile. "They owe a lot of their creative inspiration to him and I find it ironic when they start judging other chefs." They're all learning from one another, he says. "I think any chef who tells you their cuisine is uniquely theirs is either extremely egotistical or they haven't add-

educed the origins of what they're doing." Chef borrow from each other all the time, he adds, "but it's important to morph it into something of your own." Aprile says he did learn the poe technique at Altea, but adds that "the first kitchen to break that was actually 22 Bulli. Ferran Adrià is the mad genius everyone else is scrambling to follow. He was doing it before any of these other chefs were even thinking about it. If anyone should be upset, it should be him."

This type of fooding is pretty specific to molecular gastronomy—it's because it's the only really new thing to happen to food in, well, centuries. A debate about the rage raged not long ago on the food blog *Foodist*. A recipe that saw *protein gelatin* using an enzyme called transglutaminase, marinated into a noodle, cooked and served with smoked yogurt, pumpkin and corn, showed up as the website of two restaurants, *Interlude* in Melbourne and *WD-50* in New York, simultaneously. Stands off food philosophers?

As an eGulletter to note, *Interlude* is run by a 31-year-old British chef, Robin Wickham, a former student of Wylie Dufresne, head chef/co-owner of WD-50. Wickham has been accused by the online foodie community of copying recipes from Dufresne, as well as other restaurants, including Adrià's Altea. Someone even posted side-by-side

photos of the copycat recipes.

More recently, *Interlude* owner's online journalist Hilary Cooperman ate a meal in the *Interlude* Molecular Bar in Tokyo composed of 25 minute tiny courses, the bulk of which were culled from ideas the chef had brought with him from his previous employer, Josep Adrià's *Mini Bar* restaurant in Waukegan. Although the young chef was forthright about this, readers still raised an eyebrow upon him.

Is any of this fair game? As it turns out, maybe. It is possible to patent a recipe, although, for the most part, both the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office would issue a patent on a recipe only if it were "intrinsically different, involving a method or apparatus used, from anything that had been done before." In any event, the *Interlude* owner's journal is inspired by the *Interlude* chef's definition. Why, he wondered, aren't every Chinese restaurant serving hot and sour soup, or every Japanese restaurant serving California rolls?

Think of French food. Escalope, Paillard, Boeuf, Julia Child. Authentic French cuisine has few ingredients (mostly bread, cream and eggs, really). Where the magic lies is in the technique. That's why the chef with modest star gastronomy. If you think about it, wine used in a cream sauce cooked down up pair ing paired with a topping of torched sugar. And no one's in a suit about the influence of cream brûlée on other chefs. ■



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ARLYN CHRISTOPHER RYAN

1958-2008

"The radio said there was an accident. My brother said, 'Tina, it's not going to happen to you again.'"

Arlyn Christopher Ryan was Southern Calgary's Grace Hospital on Oct. 17, 2008. His parents, Margaret and Gary, had worked for Canada Post in Calgary and lived in the nearby town of Strathmore. A neighbor, John Perkin, often helped Arlyn with his own daughter Kristina in tow. At the age of 2, Kristina helped change Arlyn's diapers. Both families were from the Tennessee area and, as newcomers, they found solace in each other's company. When Arlyn was 3, his brother Shannon was born.

When he turned 6, his dad, who had been an accomplished goaltender in Tennessee, signed him up for hockey. The next year, the family moved to British Columbia, first to Agassiz and then to Nelson, where Arlyn went to A.E. Colquhoun Elementary School. His mother says his teachers described him as "quiet and shy" but the memories that he "was always interested in everything. He loved to be out in the woods. He liked to be on his own." One of the highlights of his childhood was being chosen, along with Margaret, to run with the Olympic torch for the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary. The run drove from Nelson, a distance of about 600 km, for the event.

Over the years, Arlyn's family and Kristina's family kept in touch, visiting back and forth. Life in Nelson, says one of Arlyn's friends, Lara Harvey, was a holdover from the 1960s, laid back and "unpretentious." Arlyn, Lara and another friend, Scott Lipinski, went to U.V. Rogers Secondary School and together with a group of about 10 other teens spent much of their time in so-called bush parties, drinking beer around a firepit. Arlyn was always the quiet one—the never spoken "useless jockey," Lara says—and he had a few bad moments or "karakoms." "The more he drank, the louder he would get and the more fun he would be," she says. Still, "he was always the first to look after things, stop a fight, look after someone who was sick, and someone a ride." Says Sara, "He really cared for everyone." His good nature earned him the nicknames Sean and Lani called him "Aali" or "Jobby." Other friends called him "Aaaaah."

Although his brother went to university, Arlyn decided to work after high school. "There was nothing here in Nelson," his mother says, "and he didn't really know what he wanted to do. He was kind of drifting." In August 2001, when he was 20, Arlyn went to Calgary, morning on with the Perkin family just a month after Kristina

had survived a devastating accident on the Trans Canada Highway near Strathmore. The head-on, Bertram Passage, had been killed and Kristina, who was three years in progress with her second child, had sustained severe head trauma. When her daughter Jessica was born, Arlyn was the first one to hold her. "Arlyn found the family," Margaret says. And after he and Kristina went to a Christian party together, they became a couple. Says Kristina, "I liked everything about him. He was funny. He was smart. He was sensitive. We decided we might as well try to make a go of it."

Arlyn and Kristina moved to their own home in Strathmore, near Calgary, and Arlyn went to work at Landmark Foods. Kristina got pregnant. Says Lara, who now works at Strathmore, "When Arlyn found out he was going to be a dad, something snapped. The quit smoking, he started working his butt off and the sweetest thoughts of purring." He dated on Jensen, now 3, Jessica, 4, and their son had together, Kyle, 2. Says Lara, "He finally found what he was looking for."

Near dawn on Monday, Edwina Madeline says Arlyn, "tapped up to the place" as a family man. Last August, he and Kristina decided to get married and the whole neighborhood, on what Edwina calls a "very social" dinner, was invited for them. The date was set for July 15, 2006. "The last time I saw him," says Sara Lipinski, a friend at Landmark Foods, "he gave me an invitation to the wedding. My wife and I were thinking we had to get together with them."

At the beginning of May, Arlyn got a job with a glass company in Calgary. He regularly made the 45-minute commute in the family's red 2004 Dodge Caravan. On Friday, May 26 at about 1:00 p.m., he was on the Trans Canada Highway about half an hour away from the place Kristina and Bertram had crashed on June 9, five years before. Kristina says he was late. She turned on the radio. She heard there had been an accident. She called her brother and he told her, "Tina, it's not going to happen to you again. Stop worrying." She called the RCMP five minutes later, they were at their door.

Arlyn had lost control of the van. It had crashed from the fast lane to the slow lane, hit the shoulder, rolled over and ended under a bridge abutment. He was wearing a seatbelt. His airbag did deploy but he had been drinking or doing drugs. He died at the scene of severe head injuries. He was 25.

BY BARBARA RICHMOND



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